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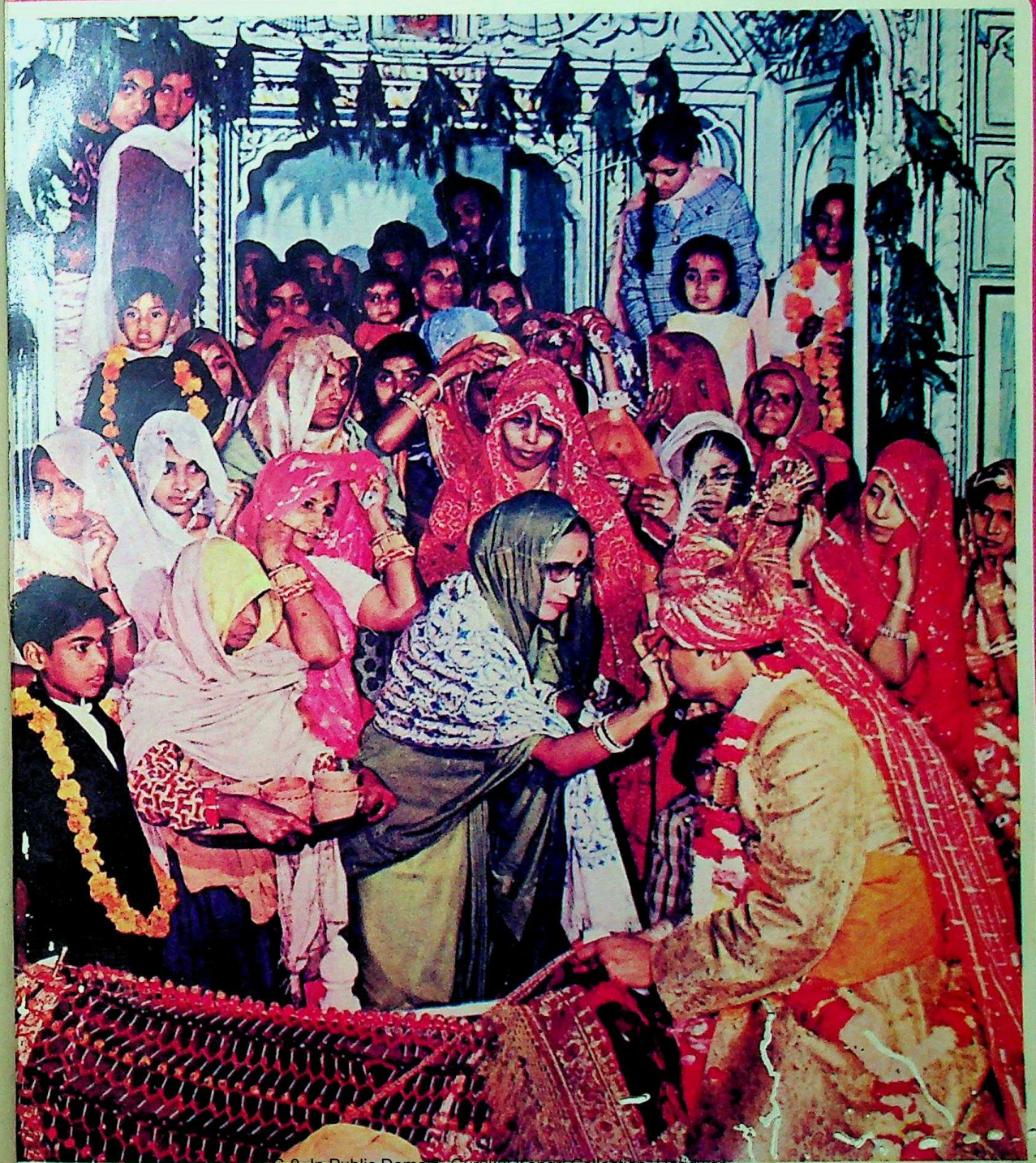

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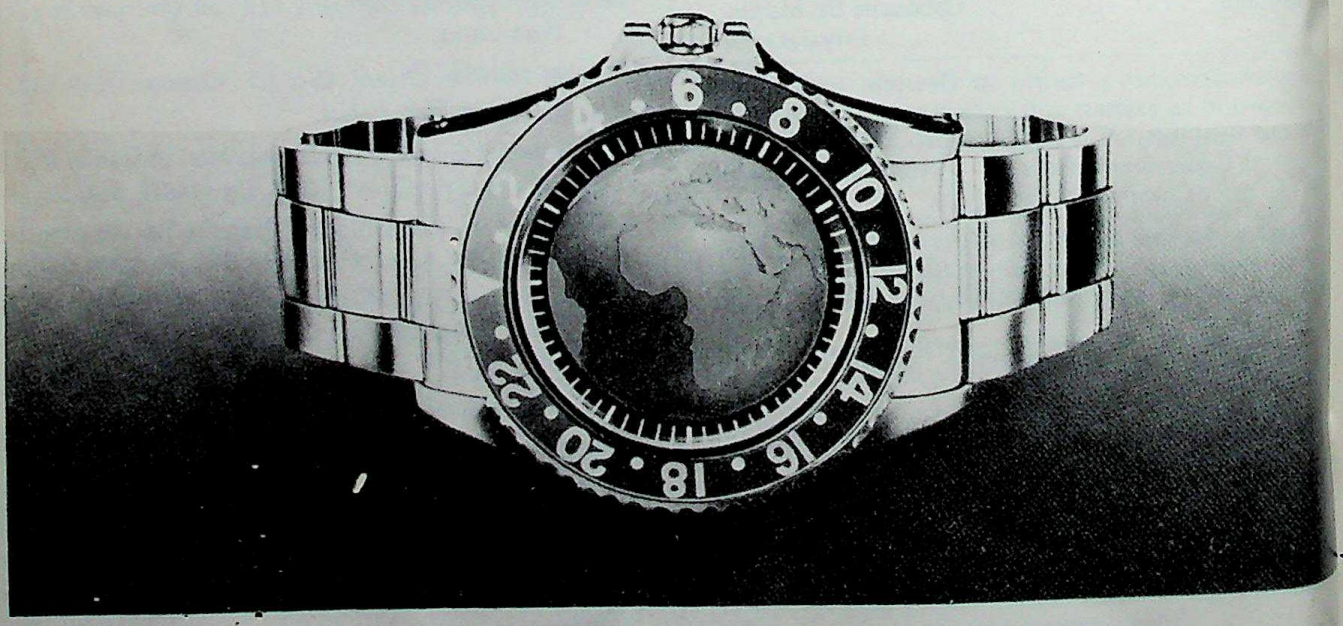

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Rear View

BUGBEAR OF NATIONALISATION

The Janata Party is presently propped up, presenting the semblance of a united party, after the vicissitudes that transcended the dimensions of a 'family quarrel', with reinducting Mr. Charan Singh into the Cabinet with the vital Finance portfolio, plus the frill of deputy prime ministership. This development follows a collective act of realism by some members of the Janata Party's National Executive who took a bold stand against being bulldozed by Mr. George Fernandes to endorse a proposal to nationalise private firms in some key industries. Had the proposal been accepted by the ruling party, it would have gone against the accepted tenets of a mixed economy that has borne fair dividends so far. All that the National Executive could be persuaded to commit itself was the proposition that "the control and holding of large industrial houses" should be "effectively reduced". Which is as it should be.

It goes without saying that any decision at nationalisation of key industries at this juncture would be counterproductive. After twelve years of near stagnation, the entire industrial sector is poised at the moment for a major take-off. For the past nine months, the current production has been rising at over eight per cent per annum a record indeed. Investment has also shown signs of picking up, but the industrial output may degenerate to the level of 1977 if the Damocle's sword of impending nationalisation is hung over the heads of entrepreneurs.

The so-called 'ginger group' within the Janata Party, led by Mr. George Fernandes (the Central Minister of Industries) and Mr. Biju Patnaik (the Minister for Steel and Mines, who has built a comfortable industrial mini empire of his own), the stalwarts for nationalisation of key industries and known supporters of Mr. Charan Singh, may now strike idealogical rapport with him, and take steps to discourage the growth of large-scale industry outside the public sector. Mr. Charan Singh is on record (in his book "India's Economic Policy") that he is inclined to impose curbs on the further growth of industrial house. Though he is not a radical in the Marxist sense, he is *kisan*-minded to the extent of holding that the urban centres have prospered at the cost of the countryside.

It may be well to redress the balance in favour of the peasant but as the powerful Finance Minister, who will soon be presenting the budget for 1979-80, Mr. Charan Singh would be sagacious to ensure that no steps are taken to obstruct investment in industry. Rural development, so dear to him, cannot take place in an environment in which the much-needed funds are not forthcoming. There certainly is consensus in the country for the execution of programmes which will lead to step up investments in agriculture and small-scale industries, but further nationalisation sector has no relevance whatsoever to the economic policy formally proclaimed by the Janata Party or the industrial policy statement to which the Janata Government is committed.

Jan. 26, 1979. — Somnath Dhar

ROMAN TEMPLE NEAR TRIVANDRUM?

The possible existence of a temple dedicated to the Roman Emperor Augustus in Cranganore to the north of Trivandrum, Kerala, was raised by German journalist Prinze Huberusz Locwensteins recently.

Although speculations on the ancient site rest largely on legends and what archaeologists and historians have referred to as "doubtful evidence," should the temple be unearthed, its discovery may prove to be of great historic interest. There is ample evidence that contacts existed between Kerala and Rome during the pre-Christian era. Roman coins and pottery have been found by archaeologists at various sites in the southern Indian state.

Reference to the lost temple have been found in German and Italian literature, according to Locwensteins.

— I.A.

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EDUCATION DRIVE IN INDIA

India is poised for a big stride in adult literacy with the implementation of the national education policy which accords high priority for positive steps to educate adults and children, according to Education Minister Dr. P. C. Chunder.

Even if the schemes in the policy were implemented only in half, he said, in an interview, literacy in the country, now estimated at about 34 per cent, would go up to 65 per cent at the end of five years.

For the massive drive launched on October 2nd last year to educate 100-million adults, the Planning Commission had allocated Rs. 2 billion ($250 million) to the Education Ministry.

In taking positive steps to educate the children up to the elementary standard on a universal basis, a special scheme for non-formal education for drop-outs had been introduced for the first time, Chunder said.

For both the formal and non-formal education schemes to cover a targeted 35 million people in five years, the Planning Commission had provided for Rs. 9 billion (over $1 billion) as against Rs. 4.5 billion ($ 599.5 million) for primary education in the last plan period.

The non-formal education for drop-out children would lay stress on vocational training so that they may learn a specialized trade along with their elementary education, Chunder said.

The national policy would also qualitatively change the pattern of formal education by reducing the curriculum of subjects in schools, checking growth of new universities and colleges extending the existing radius of education in the community.

PONDY MERGER?

Prime Minister Morarji Desai raised the proverbial hornets nest about his ears when he made an impromptu statement at a press conference in Madras on January 19 that the Union Territory of Pondicherry etc. would be merged in the neighbouring states (Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh) and that there was no question of ascertaining the wishes of the people of the former colonies—Pondicherry, Mahe, Yanam and Karaikal. The anti-merger wave that swept through the former French settlements involved an unprecedented orgy of arson and attacks on government property, vehicles and property belonging to the Aurobindo Ashram.

The would-be beneficiary states evinced little interest in the merger move. The government of Tamil Nadu adopted a cautious stand. Kerala and Andhra Pradesh were apathetic to the prospect of integrating the enclaves, Mahe and Yanam, respectively. In Pondy itself, various sections of the population held protest demonstrations galore. In fact, every political party, including the Janata, expressed its resolve to fight the proposed merger to the last.

Pondicherry and the enclaves have a lot to gain by the continuance of the status quo. Theirs is a mini success story of development, hardly rivalled in the rest of India. Pondicherry (480 sq. Km), Karaikal (161 sq. Km). Mahe (nine sq. Km) and Yanam (20 sq. Km) have altogether 557 educational and technical institutions and the literacy rate is as high as 46.02 per cent within the total population of 550,000. The tourist traffic (as high as 50,000 arrivals) pumps in a big amount of foreign exchange. Then there is the Treaty with France (May 1956) to contend with; it made an express reference to "ascertaining the wishes of the people" in the event of constitutional changes.

The storm raised over the future of Pondicherry that could have encompassed other Union territories has been halted, for the moment, by the statement of Home Minister H. M. Patel that the future of Pondicherry and other enclaves would be decided after ascertaining the wishes of the people of these former colonies. And, the Prime Minister himself stated that all circumstances would be considered before taking any decision on the issue. So, it was a storm in a tea cup! The future alone will tell whether it was or wasn't.

— Somnath Dhar

RAM LADDUS

A poultry farmer of Delhi who advertised eggs as "Ram laddus" is facing prosecution.

On a complaint filed by an advocate, Mr. Satish Kumar Jain, the Chandigarh judicial magistrate, Mr. B. C. Rajput summoned the Shankaracharyas of Puri and Joshi Math, the RSS chief, Balasaheb Deoras, and the Ramakrishna Mission chief as witnesses.

Mr. Jain in his complaint said that Mr. Babu Singh, chairman of all-India poultry farmers association, had insulted the Hindu religion by calling the eggs "Ram laddus," meaning thereby that the eggs are "prasad of Ram."

The advertisement appeared in a local daily.

The complaint said that Mr. Singh had also insulted Hindus by citing Mahatma Gandhi to say that milk is non-vegetarian while egg is vegetarian.

It is also alleged that by associating the name Ram with egg, the accused had "made a mockery of the Hindu god."

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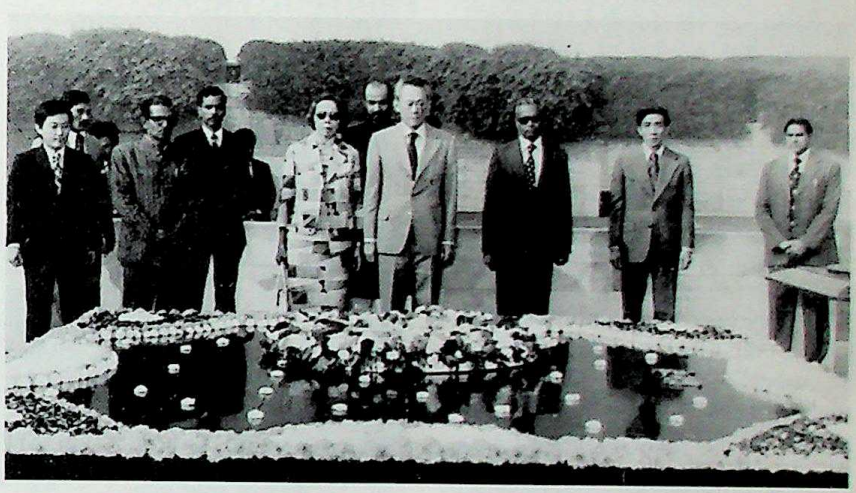
Indo — Singapore Ties Strengthened

By G.S. Muthukrishnan

Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew has just paid a six-day official visit to India at the invitation of Prime Minister Morarji Desai. It is Mr. Lee's first visit to New Delhi after a lapse of seven years. According to agency reports from the Indian capital, the two leaders held wide-ranging talks on bilateral and other issues and agreed on the need to fight the protectionist trends of the developed countries. Later, Mr. Lee visited some of India's wellknown tourist spots including the famous Taj Mahal and also toured a few industrial centres such as Bangalore, before returning home via Madras on Dec. 18.

Mr. Lee and party flew into New Delhi on Dec. 12 late at night from Bangkok where he had just ended a four-day visit to Thailand. It was quite a change from the tropical heat of the Thai capital to the wintry New Delhi about to go to bed. They were received by Mr. Desai and members of his cabinet. Mr. Lee was accompanied by his wife, their daughter Wei Ling and a team of 15 officials. Among the Singapore delegates were Finance Minister Mon Sui Sen, Senior Minister of State for National Development S. Dhanabalan and Political Secretary for Science and Technology Lim Chee Onn, who joined the mission in Bangkok.

PAYING HOMAGE



Mr. Lee Kuan Yew (centre) with his wife (on his right) at the Rajghat, where the distinguished visitors laid wreaths at the Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation.

AT MAHATMA GANDHI'S SAMADHI

The official programme started off in the morning, with payment of respects at Mahatma Gandhi's Samadhi. Mr. Lee and all others of his party took off their shoes at the Samadhi, where Gandhiji was cremated, and stood in silence after laying the wreath on the memorial stone. Later in the day, Mr. Lee held talks with Mr. Desai. According to an Indian Foreign Ministry official, Mr. Lee met Mr. Desai for two sessions and held wideranging discussions on the international situation, the developments in South-east Asia and bilateral relations. The official said the two leaders " jointly emphasised the need to fight protectionist trends of the developed countries." The official added: "Mr. Desai assured Mr. Lee that India wants to develop relations with Asean." Indian Foreign Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee also met Mr. Lee in a separate session during which " a very extensive exchange of views on the situation in South-east Asia took place," the Indian official said. Mr. Lee told reporters that in

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addition to economic issues, his talks with Mr. Desai covered common interest in the international sphere and bilateral relations.

A RELIABLE AND STEADFAST FRIEND

Later, speaking at a banquet in his honour hosted by Mr. Desai, Mr. Lee said India's commitment to non-communism and non-alignment made her a natural friend of the Asean countries. Singapore, in particular, Mr. Lee said, "has always found India a reliable and steadfast friend." He began by saying that seven years since he last visited India, many changes had overtaken the world, especially South and South-east Asia. "Perhaps changes have a deeper imprint on young people. I come from a nation which, by Asian standards, has a very short history, just over 150 years. The distant-past of our people lies with their ancestors in China, India, Malaysia and Indonesia. We have no ancient monuments, temples and other glorious antiquities. As a result, we are only too eager to innovate and even to change our way of life," he said.

However, this lack of historical ballast could be dangerous at times of crisis, said Mr. Lee. "There is not the assurance of a long and splendid history to provide the confidence that destiny is on our side in coping with the next ominous crisis," he said, and added: "For instance, we in Singapore were startled by the sharp clash between two communist states to our North, for the time being confined to the Indo-Chinese Peninsula. We were startled because we could not believe one communist government had set out deliberately to subvert and overthrow another communist government. When a communist does this to a non-communist government, he calls it 'liberation', when he does it to another communist government, he calls it 'salvation'."

The Singapore leader went on to say, "We in South-east Asia, a member of the countries of ASEAN, want to co-exist peacefully with all the communist states to our North, whatever their ideological idiosyncracies. India's commitment to non-communism and non-alignment makes her a natural friend of the countries of ASEAN. Singapore has always found India a reliable and steadfast friend. It is friendship that spring from shared values of our common past and shared expectations of one peaceful and stable world in which cooperation in Asia will bring shared benefits. It is therefore a great pleasure for me to be in Delhi again. It is yet another opportunity to meet old friends and renew old friendships."

WARM WELCOME

Photograph shows Mr. Lee Kuan Yew (left) with Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, India's Foreign Minister, with whom also he had talks.

FRUITFUL TALKS

The Indian and Singapore Prime Ministers and their delegations at the talks which were very fruitful.

GLOWING TRIBUTE TO MR. DESAI

Then, addressing Mr. Desai, Mr. Lee said: "Mr Prime Minister, when I met you in London 18 months ago, after a lapse of nearly eight years, you left a deep impression on me of a man completely serene and self-contained and none the worse for yet another period of detention. As you said, it was your conviction

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that good must triumph over evil which made all difficulties bearable. This is all a part of the Indian tradition, the Hindu ethos. This same ethos is what makes the Indian civilisation so durable. It is this long view of history that has seen India weather many a crisis with equanimity and quiet resolve."

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

Later, a joint communique issued in New Delhi said the talks between the two Prime Ministers, "took place in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding." The two leaders recalled with pleasure the various opportunities they have had for exchange of views on matters of common interest, and felt that they had contributed to the strengthening of bilateral relations between the two countries. Welcoming the new spirit of cooperation amongst states, both in South Asia and among the ASEAN countries, the two Prime Ministers were of the view that efforts should be made to consolidate regional cooperation as a vital factor for peace, stability and economic development. With reference to the situation in Southeast Asia, the communique said, the two leaders emphasised the need for peaceful and constructive relations to be developed among all nation states on the basis of the principle of non-interference in internal affairs and respect of sovereignty.

INDIA REITERATES SUPPORT TO ASEAN

The communique went on to state that Mr. Lee briefed Mr. Desai on the progress made by ASEAN. Mr. Desai reiterated India's support for ASEAN, and its continued commitment to the establishment of a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality in Southeast Asia. He indicated India's desire to establish closer relations with ASEAN, and felt that increasing cooperation between India and the countries of the ASEAN region is of mutual advantage. Both sides expressed satisfaction that the ASEAN Secretary-General held exploratory talks with the Government of India on possible forms of cooperation between ASEAN and India.

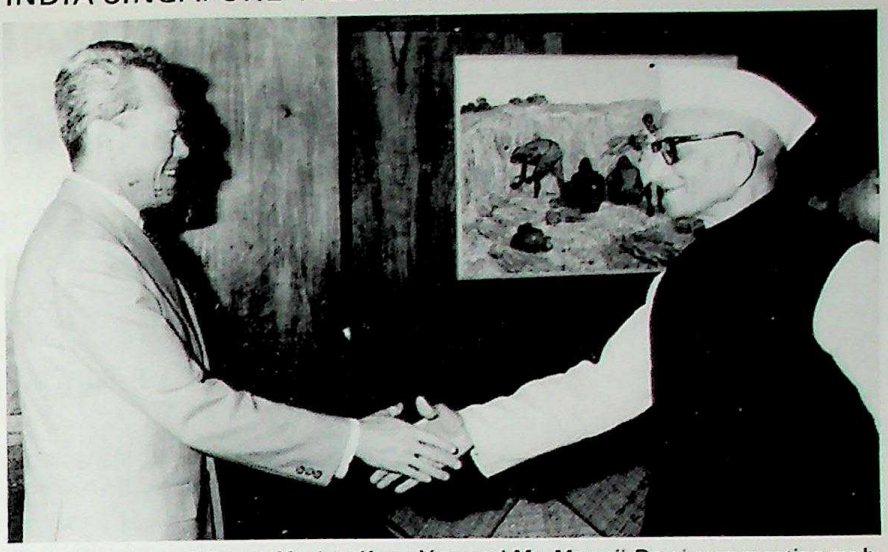
The two Prime Ministers appreciated the successes recorded in developing the respective economies and priority they attach to raising the living standards of the people, the communique added. They also noted that the already existing wide range of cooperation between the two countries could be expanded especially in the fields of trade, investment and transfer of technology.

MR DESAI TO VISIT SINGAPORE

The communique disclosed that Mr. Lee extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India to visit Singapore, and that the invitation was accepted with pleasure.

The communique concluding said Mr. Lee left New Delhi on Dec. 14 to visit Agra, Fatehpur-Sikri, Bangalore, Mysore and Madras. But according to later agency reports, however, Mr. Lee had to skip Mysore because of indisposition brought about by a slight cold. There was no statement on his return to Singapore, but there is no doubt that the traditional ties of friendship and co-operation have received a big boost through his very cordial talks with his Indian counterpart, and that one can certainly look forward with confidence to increasing Indo-Singapore trade and economic co-operation in the coming years with benefit to the peoples of both countries.

INDIA SINGAPORE TIES STRENGTHENED



The two prime ministers, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew and Mr. Morarji Desai seen greeting each other. *Photos: Somnath Dhar*

INDIA RANKS FIRST

IN BUFFALO POPULATION

Karnal. India leads other nations in the world in buffalo population. It has 60 million buffaloes.

This was stated by Dr. D. Sundersan, director of the National Dairy Research Institute at the international seminar of dairy scientists.

He said China, Thailand and Philippines together had 40 million buffaloes, while Pakistan had an estimated population of 10 million. The world population of buffaloes stood at 130 million. He said in Asia buffaloes accounted for 37 per cent of the total milk production.

Dr. Sundersan outlined steps initiated for the development of breeding, especially in the light of the research carried out at the National Dairy Research Institute.

Dairy scientists from India and abroad discussed various steps for increasing milk production. They considered technological aspects to improve the breed of buffaloes and application of artificial insemination.

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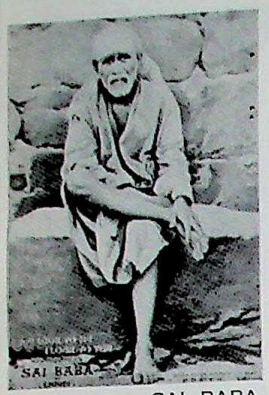

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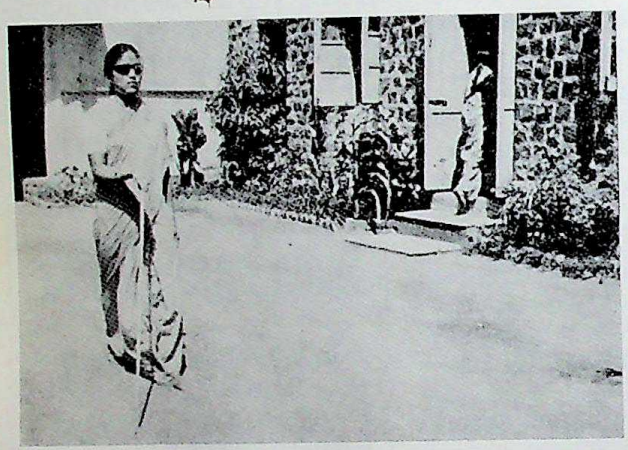

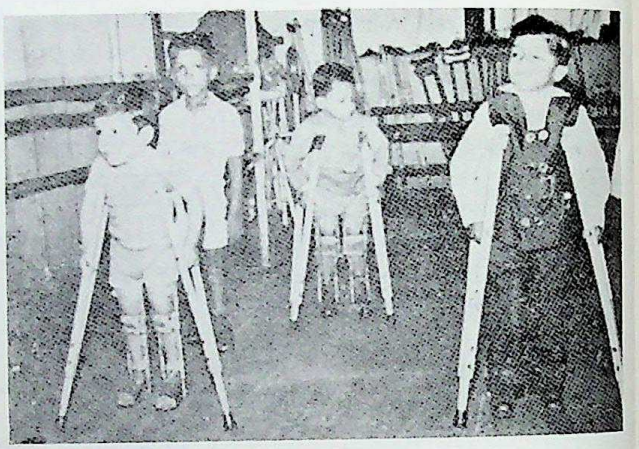

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INDIA WINS HEARTS IN THE ARAB WORLD.....

Indian contractors are steadily increasing their share of work in the Arab countries, building a power house in Saudi Arabia, housing in Kuwait, an airport in Libya, sewage and water supply projects in Iraq. They attribute much of their success in these countries to keeping a low profile and not offending local customs.

In stiff competition with long-established Western and Japanese firms, Indians have bagged contracts worth millions of riyals in the Mid-east.

"What is more important is that Arabs no longer think of India as a backward and poor country," says D. Mukherjee, an Indian economist, "instead they have begun ranking it as the leading industrialised nation in South-east Asia and the one which can help the Arab world in their race against time to develop fast."

The way Indians moved into Kuwait is a case history in miniature: Some years ago, an Italian company contracted a housing project in Kuwait. They began working with gusto but soon their pace slackened due to financial problems. Gradually, they fell behind schedule and consequently fell foul of Kuwaiti authorities.

Then one evening the entire company packed their bags in a hurry and flew out of Kuwait, leaving behind everything at the site of their work, even the papers in their typewriters.

Until then Indians had a limited presence in Kuwait. They had started by building a part of Kuwait Airport, an Sr 10.2 million project, in a manner which made a good impression on the Kuwaitis.

The work was complex, involving problems like the fabrication and erection of steel structures like 90-metres-long girders each weighing more than 10 tonnes.

So when the Italians left, the Kuwaitis awarded the mammoth Adiya Housing township project, an SR965.6 million project, to Engineering Products India Ltd. (EPI), a Government of India undertaking. It is a joint stock company drawing its resources and personnel from seven leading public sector enterprises in India.

An observer who visited Kuwait very recently to assess Indian projects there said: "Today EPI has worked worth SR1.3 billion and employs 10,000 Indians."

The terrain in the Arab world can be very tough. After winning a contract for the construction of Ghat airport in Libya two Indian engineers left Ubari, a small Libyan town, one morning in a car to locate the site.

Their car broke down four hours out into the desert. All around there was only undulating sand as far as one could see. The driver started walking towards what looked like an oasis but turned out to be a mirage.

When he did reach a village after trudging 14 kilometres under the scorching sun, he collapsed. His turban saved him from certain death by sun-stroke. When the engineers did eventually arrive at their destination, one of them exclaimed: "It is just like landing on the Moon."

Today, Ghat is a changed place. More than 250 engineers are busy completing the airport and a regular flow of traffic with Ubari brings everything needed to live a tolerable life.

"They (Indians) are creating an airport by using a technology which is different from the West, something which suits the Saharan conditions," says A. Khan, who has recently been there.

The airport is being jointly executed by the National Building Construction Corporation Ltd. (NBCC) and the International Airport Authority of India (IAAI), both public sector enterprises.

The most prestigious project is being built by Indians on the outskirts of Tripoli. It is one of the biggest power stations in North Africa, estimated cost SR 85 million.

This is being handled by Bharat Heavy Electrical Ltd. (BHEL), another Government of India undertaking; which also constructs a

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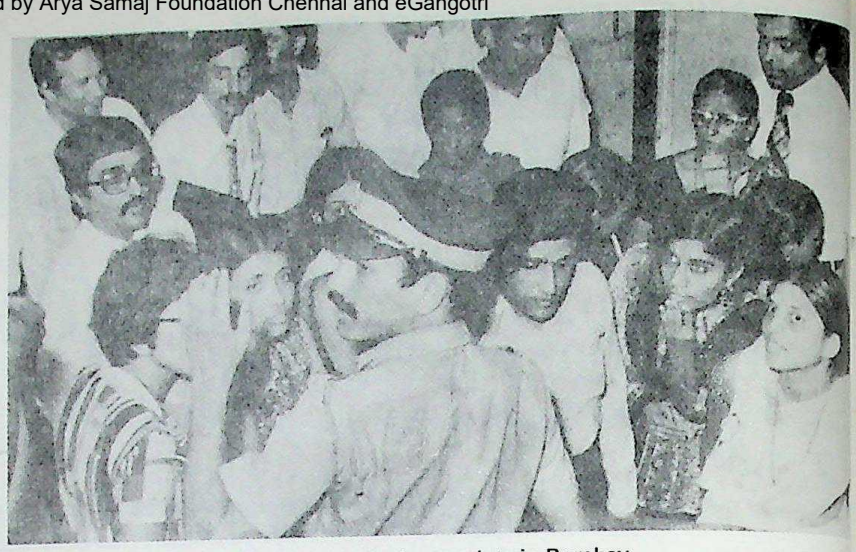
42mw power house in Gizan, Saudi Arabia at a cost of SR 300 million.

Apart from this, NBCC is building 1,000 houses on rock in close co-operation with another government undertaking, Kerala State Construction Corporation (KSCC), at Beni Walid.

But Indians had been working in Libya even before BHEL, IAAI, NBCC and KSCC moved in Kamanis, an Indian private undertaking, had laid many kilometres of electric wire and poles, both imported from India, in several parts of the country.

Right now about 10 Indian companies are working in Libya on projects worth SR 1.7 billion and it is estimated that by the end of 1978, this business may touch about SR 3.4 billion.

In Iraq, Indians are building grain silos, laying sewage pipes, executing water-supply projects and setting up training centres. At Talafar, Sirkhat and Siniar silos with a storage capacity of 60,000 40,000 and 20,000 tonnes, cost, SR187 million, are coming into shape. About 1200 technicians from India are working round the clock on them.



Indian medical workers crowd at an Arab consulate in Bombay.

At Iskandariyah Indians have just completed building a mechanical training centre, cost SR54.4 million, complete with laboratories classrooms, library and workshops and handed it over to the Iraqi authorities.

Indians' success in Iraq can be gauged from the fact that in the first four months of 1978 they picked up contracts worth SR 306 million.

"Indications are that very soon they would be asked to construct more houses, silos, railways, micro-networks, irrigation projects, water research centres, radio and TV stations," says A Khan.

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AWARD PRESENTED

INDIA NEPAL LINK

By Somnath Dhar

Nepal's is Hindu polity-with a difference. The very Hinduism of Nepal (the only Hindu Kingdom in the world) is the crucible of diverse influences---Buddhism, Tantric cults and anzmistic rituals. Most of the Nepalese worship both the Buddha (born in the southern part of Nepal, close to the Indian border) and the Hindu gods as well as a great variety of ancient deities and spirits. In the Swambunath Buddhist shrine (near Kathmandu), the present writer was interested to see the images of the Buddha alongside those of the Hindu gods, besides pictures of Jesus and Mahatma Gandhi.

Venue: Embassy of India, Kathmandu. Dr. P. C. Chunder, India's Education, Social Welfare and Culture Minister, presenting the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding for 1977 to Mr. Tulsi Meherji Shrestha, eminent Nepalese social service worker and Gandhian.

ANCIENT INDO-NEPAL TIES

Nepalese Buddhism also embraces the Hindu trial of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva. Thus, Nepal – also known in the world as the mountain girt locale for Mount Everest and other expeditions as well as the elusive snowman, "yet-presents a unique blending of the two great religions, Hinduism and Buddhism. Nowhere else may one come across the exotic phenomenon that the same idol may be worshipped by devout persons professing these different faiths.

The famous temple of Pashupatinath, situated on the banks of the Baghmati river, near Kathmandu, is associated with the story of Arjuna's penance and his obtaining the Pasupata weapon from Lord Mahadev. Lakhs of Indian pilgrims visit Pashupatinath every year. There are references in scriptures to Shankaracharya's visit to Pashupatinath and the reforms he introduced in that temple. The four faces of Pashupatinath are said to correspond to the *Char Dhams* or, the four religious centres in India–Badrinath, Rameshwaram, Dwaraka and Jagannath.

The overall religious pattern of Nepal has some leanings towards Vedic culture. The King and the people of Nepal yearly celebrate the Vedic festival of *Indradhavajaropana*, which is almost forgotten in India. In the field of art, Nepalese masterpieces in stone, metal and even wood, may show symbolism and motifs that are distinctly indigenous, but by and large, the Nepalese art has revealed affinities with Indian art.

TOUCHING CEREMONY

The age-old religious, cultural and other ties that bind Nepal with India were recalled at a touching ceremony that took place in Kathmandu recently. India's Minister-of Education, Social Welfare and Culture, Dr. P. C. Chunder flew to Kathmandu from

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Delhi to present the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding for the year 1977 to Mr. Tulsi Meherji Shrestha, a dedicated Gandhian and Social Service worker of Nepal. The ceremony was held in Kathmandu because of the ill health of Mr. Shrestha. Mr. N. B. Menon, India's Ambassador to Nepal, had made arrangements that the award would be presented at the hospital, where Mr. Shrestha is recuperating. But Mr. Shrestha, despite his feeble condition, insisted on the presentation taking place at the Indian Embassy. Accompanied by the anxious members of his family, Mr. Shrestha was brought there in a wheeled chair.

The award has been given to Mr. Shrestha in recognition of his contribution towards the propagation of the philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi and his dedication to international understanding. A selfless social worker, Mr. Shrestha has quietly and unpretentiously worked for the uplift of the underprivileged and the unfortunate in Nepal. Thus, he has carried his Gandhian message beyond Nepal and also cemented ties between Nepal and India in the interest of peace and international understanding a cause close to Jawaharlal Nehru's heart.

'UNTIRING GANDHIAN'

During his life-span of over eight decades, he has stabilised a large number of institutions designed to impart basic education, develop cottage industries and rehabilitate the homeless and the poor. Most of these institutions have become self-supporting. Mr. Shrestha joined the Sabarmati Ashram in the early twenties and took an active part in constructive work and social welfare movements in India. In 1951, the Nepal Gandhi Smarak Nidhi was established by him and inaugurated by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. In 1953, he established the Gandhi Adarsh Vidyalaya and an Ashram for orphans and destitute women. He also established the Gandhi Udyog Mandir in Janakpur, Nepal.

Living at Manohara, in the vicinity of Kathmandu, Mr. Shrestha shuns publicity. His room is sparsely furnished, the only decoration being a glass case containing a pair of wooden sandals that Gandhiji used to wear. He adorns them with flowers and garlands of yarn, spun by him. When Mr. Morarji Desai, the Indian Prime Minister, visited Nepal in December 1977, Mr. Shrestha presented hand-spun Khadi to him. Already, Mr. Shrestha has plans to use the Award money, to further the programmes of several of his institutions. His is such a noble example that the Award being for his lifelong dedication is also indicative of the understanding which exists between the peoples of Nepal and India.

Hence, it was in the fitness of things that presenting the Award to Mr. Shrestha, Dr. Chunder said that his "life and work is one of the most outstanding manifestations of Gandhian spirit in our time." He has worked "untiringly from village level, among the under-privileged, the homeless and the destitute and given them a name and identity which is precious to them." Then, Dr. Chunder draped a shawl round his shoulders.

THE NEHRU AWARD

When Jawaharlal Nehru passed away on May 27, 1964, people all over the world mourned his demise and shared in the profound grief of the Indian people. Among the many tributes paid to him was the decision of the Government of India to institute an award to be called the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding to be given annually for outstanding contribution to the promotion of international understanding, goodwill and friendship among the peoples of the world. The award carries an amount of Rs. 100,000 (convertable into foreign exchange) and a Citation which is presented to the recipient.

The previous recipients are: Late U. Thant, Late Martin Luther King Jr., Khaw Abdul Ghaffar Khan, Yehudi Menuhin, Mother Teresa, President Kenneth D. Kaunda, President Josip Broz Tito, Andre Malraux, President Juilius K. Nyerere, Raul Prebisch, Jonas Salk and Giuseppe Tucci. An independent jury consisting of seven eminent Indians, including the Vice President and the Chief Justice of India, meets to make the selection each year.

WHERE MORARJI, INDIRA AGREE

The Prime Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, and the former prime minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, are now politically poles apart, but their blood group is identical, according to health officials in Trivandrum.

Both of them have "O" group with RH negative blood. It is the blood that is most difficult to get. When Mrs. Gandhi was prime minister, health officials in the state used to keep "RH negative" blood ready for use in an emergency. The practice continues.

CHEERS FOR 'BHAANG' LOVERS

News of cheer was there for "bhaang" lovers in India. The Prohibition policy of the Centre will not apply to "bhaang", says a recent official communication from the Department of Social Welfare, Government of India. "The Prohibition policy of the Government of India envisages prohibition of intoxication alcoholic drinks only. It does not relate to intoxicating drugs including "bhaang" said the circular.

A citizen of Delhi, Mr. Devaki Nandan, who had been fighting a lone battle with the Central and state governments protesting against imposition of prohibition on "bhaang", had been intimated of the Government's policy.

State government and the Union territories had been extending prohibition to "bhaang" also, and shops selling "bhaang" were closed on dry days.

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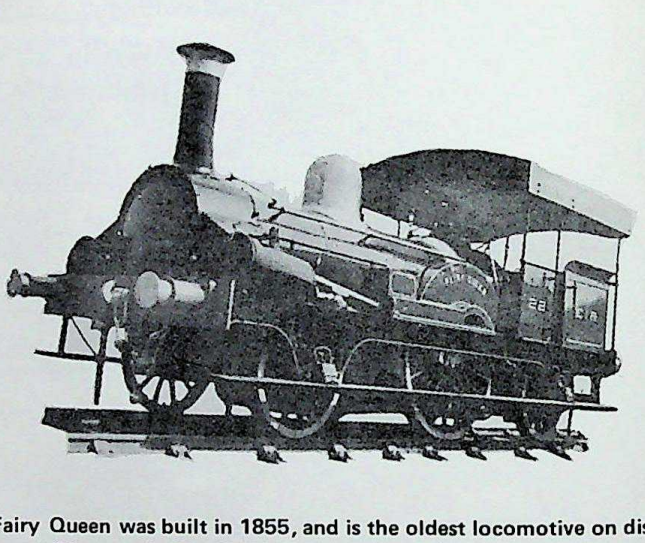
RIDING THE RAILS LIKE A RAJAH IN INDIA

By Shalini Devi Holkar

Riding the rails ... it has all sorts of connotations. Some people think of it as pure power – so many tons of steel; others, as a place: Bowani Junction, Moghul Serai, Howrah Station; still others think of a train wheels a screech of brakes, a hiss of steam, a whistle-moan in the night.

A train is a means of transport; but of course, it is more than that. In India it is 1,40,000 people working together to move seven million passengers and six hundred thousand tons of goods in eleven thousand trains every day. This is bound to involve hard work, co-ordination, humour, confusion and sometimes drama. Because the background is India and the participants Indian, the experience of the train affords the visitor, not surprisingly, a very good look at the country; an opportunity to participate, to be a traveller as well as a tourist.

The traveller has to deal with people, observe and be observed, handle many different situations. He moves not over or around, but through the land; his destinations, pauses in a running commentary, the whole of which comprises his journey. When he has forgotten dates and places, he remembers conversations and faces, because he was moving from moment to moment, not monument to monument.



The Fairy Queen was built in 1855, and is the oldest locomotive on display at the Rail Transport Museum in New Delhi.

And he need not suffer. The Indian train can be a haven of comfort. In fact, with a bit of astute planning, it can literally be a home on wheels. It is possible in India to hire a whole carriage, a 'tourist car' in official terms, and to travel with all of the comforts of home almost anywhere the rails lead.

The idea is not new. Maharajahs did it, as did Viceroys and V.I. P. folk. In their days, a tourist car was called a saloon. Saloons were equipped with every possible comfort from private smoking compartments with attendants to keep the hubble bubble going, to 'pankhas' and even thrones. That was many years ago today anyone can hire a touring car and the undertaking can be less expensive than travelling by private transport, staying in hotels and eating in restaurants. A touring car can still be a very elegant affair: two bedrooms, two baths, sitting - dining room, kitchen and staff quarters. Very often they are airconditioned and wood panneled, with hand some fixtures and elaborate windows which boast not only glass and screens, but also beautifully made wooden loures.

A touring car cannot always, of course, roll right up to the door of the Taj Mahal Hotel; but it can

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bring the traveller to within reasonable distance of whatever he would like to see, and wait quietly at the station for as long as necessary, while he explores the surroundings on foot, or by hired car.

In this leisurely, if not to say regal manner, one can easily spend two to three weeks covering any region of India in depth without so much as opening a suitcase. The attendant who comes along with the carriage, handles details such as fuel, water and laundry, makes sure that the carriage is detatched and re-attached according to the itinerary and all of this, often with a late Victorian style, that considers such niceties as fan-tailed napkins absolute necessities.

Crockery, cutlery and linen are provided, you need only bring along whatever extras that are necessary to your personal comfort. Be they one or a thousand, there is plenty of room in these spacious carriages. Too good to be true? No, it is true; but until now a secret that was too well kept. Those fortunate few who have already discovered the bliss of private rail car travel, cannot recommend it too highly. A look at our family's trip through Rajasthan gives a good idea about how the whole thing works.

We decided we would like to visit Rajasthan in December, stopping off at Jaipur, Bikaner, Jodhpur and Jaisalmer in whatever order was most convenient for the railways. We specified how many people we would be, approximately how many days we would like to spend at each stopping place and how much time we could allow for the total tour. We also specified that whenever possible, we would prefer to travel by night, saving the days for sight-seeing.

The next step was to contact the railways. In this case, we began by contacting the Western Railway, as we live in Bombay and hoped to begin the journey right on our doorstep. There are nine different branches of the railways in India having their headquarters in different places. As a rule, the planning and organisation of the journey must be done by that branch of the railways in which the journey originates. This is sometimes difficult to determine and therefore many people leave the matter to a competent travel agent. No matter who initiates the procedure, the trip is ultimately organised by the Chief Operating Superintendent of the relevant railway.

These tours can be organised on almost any type of railway car which exists; from a second class chair car to the standard eight compartment sleepers to the 'home on wheels'- the tourist car. These can be of six or eight berths; first class non-air conditioned or air-conditioned.

Our family toured Rajasthan in an eight berth first class meter gauge tourist car. We did not ultimately begin our journey in Bombay. The railway line from Bombay to Ahmedabad is broad gauge; from there onward to our other destinations in Rajasthan, it is meter gauge. Had we travelled on it from Bombay, we would have been obliged to change cars at Ahmedabad and pay empty haulage charges for our first car to return to Bombay. It is essential to plan one's tour entirely on the broad gauge or on the meter gauge trains, to avoid unnecessary changing of cars and saving on the empty haulage charges for bringing these coaches from their stabling stations to the station of your need. These are the sort of details which necessitate advance planning and the assistance of a travel agent.

Having made all our arrangements in Bombay, we flew to Jaipur and arrived at the station late one afternoon to take possession of the tourist car that was to be our home for the next twelve days. We carried with us a few necessities: lots of pre-prepared canned food and other savouries for the pantry; a large tea kettle for boiling drinking water; a 5 gallon container to store the drinking water; insect repellent, thermoses, games and books. These were loaded onto the car by a succession of porters in colourful red turbans and shirts, while the children raced all over the carriage acquainting themselves with every berth, closet and electrical gadget.

The adults strolled about a bit more calmly taking note of the rich dark wood panelling; the windows with shutters, screens and glass, each sliding independently; the noble old white refrigerator in the staff area and the cast iron stove which accounted for at least one third the weight of the carriage. This stove was to produce excellent meals during the course of the journey, stoked as it was, by the carriage attendant and general trouble shooter, George.

George and the stove and the wood panelling were all of the same vintage. He addressed everyone as 'Sir' and 'Madame' and placed great store by the polished shoe (even going so far as to polish suede shoes unless otherwise instructed). George was responsible for seeing that the carriage was coupled and uncoupled and off-shunted at the proper stations. This task and many others, he despatched with unfailing precision: but as the journey progressed, it became clear that his true calling was the folding of the napkins.

On the first night's run between Jaipur and Bikaner, we were enthralled by peacocks on parapets, crumbling old forts and desert moonlight; but George's attention was concentrated upon the complicated 'lotus fold'. When the train left the Bikaner station after a two-day stopover, everyone was at the window to catch a last glimpse of the magnificent red palace and follow the ungainly camel-drawn carts as they made their way to a village fair; but, as might be expected, George was deeply engrossed in the 'cactus fold' and refused to be tempted even by the sight of the Rajasthani women in backless blouses, brilliantly coloured in the setting sun...

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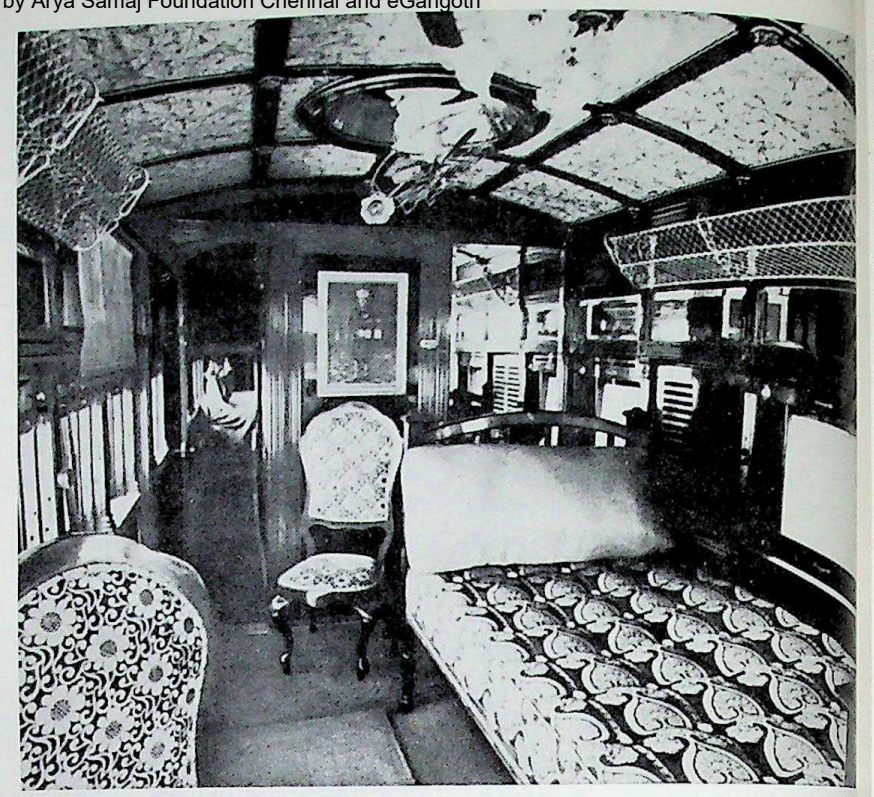
We would go sightseeing all day, returning to sleep each night, in our own beds in the saloon, parked by the side of the station. Twice we were gone for a full day on side trips to Pushkar and Bundi, lovely old towns off the main track; but upon our return, we always found George in his domain; hot bath water ready, beds made up tight as bandages in crisp white bedsheets, every trace of desert sand swept away and napkins freshly folded on the table.

During the whole trip, only one thing managed to ruffle George. He could not abide the hawkers. "Time pass – peanuts" they would call in the window the minute the train halted. "Oranges . . . " "Tea . . " "Baksheesh mommy. . . " They caused George no end of suffering and of course delighted the children. Only once did George allow himself to laugh at one of these 'nuisance fellows'; the man could not pass through the station side gate, so great was the bulk of his turban. After trying every possible angle of approach, he had to undo the whole thing, pass through , and then retie it once he was inside the gate. This tickled George to such an extent that he retired to the staff quarters laughing, no doubt admiring inspite of himself, the 'nuisance fellow's ' talent for tying. . .

Savouring the privileges of leisurely travel, we spent our days thoroughly enjoying ourselves, often listening to the stories that George related endlessly of 'the good old days'; about the splendour of the princely State Railways with their sumptuous royal saloons; about the time when the entire State Railway was geared to transport a wedding party from Delhi to Jaipur, when every second of the schedule was programmed so that party would arrive at Jaipur station just at the auspicious sunset moment pre-determined by the family priests. All is supposed to have gone well, until the Maharajah took a liking to the singer who was sent to entertain at the departure of the train from Delhi. Two hours passed, three, four and ultimately it was evening. Only then did His Highness with reluctance, give permission for the train to depart.



The luxury in which Royalty in India travelled in the years gone by! This was a private saloon belonging to the Maharajah of Mysore and was built in 1889 in Bangalore. Although one cannot travel on it today, it can be seen in the Rail Transport Museum in New Delhi, where it is on display.

Somehow, his stories left a feeling of satisfaction in everyone; it all seemed a part of our own, rather romantic, participation in the saga of the railways. In Bikaner, Jodhpur and Jaisalmer we had no problem staying in the carriage itself. The yard where we were shunted was quiet and clean. It was in the bigger cities of Ajmer and Jaipur that we abandoned the carriage for sleeping. Unlike other more remote stations, these two are loud and bustling with activity.

Should this be a problem anywhere in India, almost every station has its Inspection House for travelling railway officers which, if unoccupied, can be let to a visitor at extremely nominal rates. These rooms can prove very useful for long term stays, with their comfortable facilities and extra room for children to play.

In everyone's opinion, the Rajasthan tour was a memorable experience; the more so because we had brought along some extras, including our cook, which really made it feel like home. However, if one is willing to cook for oneself, the attendant provided by the railways will assist and do the heavy work (but not actually cook), leaving the traveller free to sit back and savour his unique, rather romantic journey.

From every point of view it is a saga. From General Manager to porter; from Rameswaram to Jammu Tawi, there is an intricate network of men and machines functioning day and night. No one ever realized that the whole thing would take such gigantic proportions. In 1825 the first train in the world ran from Darlington to Stockton in England. Suddenly a world whose maximum speed for thousands of years had been that of a saddle horse, was able to move at forty, even seventy miles per hour.

Bombay to Thana, 1853. India

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entered the field. Every Indian railman knows that first run; but how many foresaw that those twenty-one miles would become 60,000 by 1977? Certainly not the Governor of Bombay. He and a number of dignitaries boycotted the occasion, denouncing the whole venture as worthless. The following year, three thousand people applied to ride the first passenger train in India, the Howrah to Hooghly, a full and daring twenty-four miles. Awed villagers along the route offered butter and flowers to the engine, but a few early passengers remained sceptical:

> "too much travelling on a car of fire was calculated to shorten life. Seeing that it annihilates time and space and curtails the length of every other journey, it must shorten the journey of human life . . ."

or so it seemed to one Calcutta gentleman after a round on the Howrah to Hooghly. It "took a long time before the conviction gained upon him that veerily he had come to Hooghly."

It did not take so long for the people however, to see that rail travel was cheap; cheaper and faster than mail coach, horse carriage or palanquin, until that time, the only means of covering long distances. From the very outset there was a huge popular response to train travel; third class travel is the backbone of the Indian Railways and the sheer number of people who use it, are its most unusual characteristic. In the beginning they travelled, not in private saloons, but in flat-bed cars, open to the elements. Third class travellers were enjoined to approach train travel with "a large stock of philosophy... and look out for a double allowance of smoke, dust, dirt and everything that is disagreeable . . . "

Slowly sophistication crept in, bringing rooves and toilets and bewildering classifications evolved in an attempt to sort India's complexities of status, religion and caste into appropriate railway compartments: first, second, third, intermediate, European third, double decker, etc. From 1870 when Calcutta was linked to Bombay, the building of railways went on at a tremendous pace. Tunnels were tunneled, bridges built, kilometers of rail laid. Boats sometimes ferried these rails to where the work crews laid them down; elephants and bullocks dragged locomotives along unmetalled roads to their destination. England furnished the raw materials and shipped over the railway cars; that is, until a shipload sank in transit and they began to be made in India.

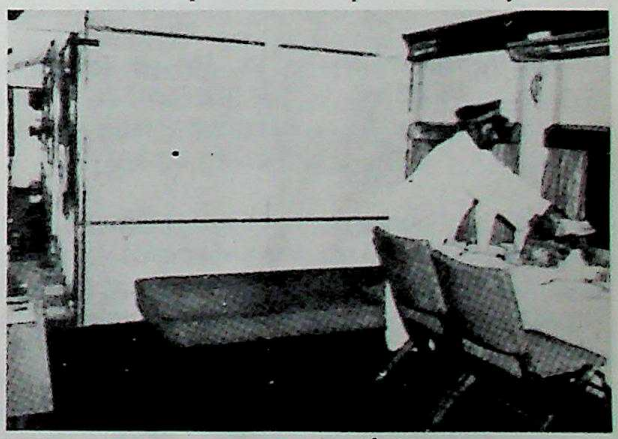
It was obvious that railways were there to stay, but still the powers were slow to recognize their tremendous potential, and viewed the building of railways as largely a means of employing famine relief workers.

Even Jules Verne – did not foresee the train. In a little known and very early book, he sends his two heroes through India in a very railway-like carriage drawn not by a steam engine but by an oversized mechanical elephant. Not so outrageous, really, if one considers that only a few years later, when the Maharajahs had entered the railway saga, at least one was known to propel his carriage down the tracks with the aid of a real elephant. That same ruler, when he later got an engine, fueled its inaugural run with pure sandalwood brought in specially from South India.

Size and space were, in fact, about the only limits to the splendour of the royal saloons. According to the popular taste of the day, they were appointed like miniature drawing rooms in Buckingham Palace: gas lights of highly polished brass, heavy damask silk on the walls and chandeliers that must have shattered quite often onto the Persian carpets. Special cars were outfitted for shooting, for harems, and even for beloved horses. One ruler kept a trusted retainer on his engine while travelling, just in case of emergency. Those were the days when almost every ruler had a railway, an engine and at least one car. One or two had a whole train and one had what is perhaps the shortest national railway in history: eight miles from start to finish.

Before Independence it was not the Indian Railways but a multitude of independents: some say as many as forty-two. Not only were there the royal railways, but also the private companies. They were

A typical bedroom of a tourist car, comfortably furnished with beds, a dressing table and a wardrobe.



Sitting cum Dining Room of a tourist car presently in use by the Railways.

Photos: R. Panchal

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British owned, but their names read like chapters of Indian history: the Bengal Nagpur, the Indian Midland, the Southern Mahratta Company. The companies developed reputations and railway men their own special lingo: the SI, South Indian, became known as the Sambar-Idli; Northwest Railway, the Not Worth Running; Oudh and Tirhut, the Old and Tired; Bengal Nagpur Rail, the Brains Not Required.

In those days the drivers were British, Scottish or Anglo-Indian. They would be heart-broken to know that the steam engines they once polished, decorated and drove like their own proud possession, are now of necessity being broken up and sold for the value of their metal. Coal is no longer available. The best grades go to steel mills and even the second quality must be brought at great expense from inaccessible re-

PLANNING A TOUR IN A TOURIST CAR

1. Contact a travel agent at least 5 months in advance of the commencement of the trip.

2. Specify the following: (a) Date of commencement of the journey; (b) Approximate number of days for which the car is to be engaged; (c) Places you would like to visit and the route you wish to follow; (d) Choice of the originating station and the station at which the tour is to be completed; (e) Duration of halt in each place; (f) Number of people travelling; (g) Type of tourist car required, e.g. 1st class airconditioned or non-airconditioned. The travel agent will organise a proposed tour without switching from meter gauge to broad gauge, or vice-versa, which is a complex and expensive operation.

3. The rates: These include the actual fares of the passengers, plus a minimum charge for the car. These are calculated per Km. according to the distance travelled. They are:

BROAD GAUGE	METER GAUGE
For a 1st class airconditioned car:	For a 1st class airconditioned car:
Rs. 2.80 per Km. per car when in transit.	Rs. 2.40 per Km. per car when in transit.
For a 1st class non-airconditioned car:	For a 1st class non-airconditioned car:
Rs. 2.60 per Km. per car when in transit.	Rs. 2.20 per Km. per car when in transit.
Rs. 40/- per car per day if the halt at a station exceeds more than 5 hours.	Rs. 30/- per car per day if the halt at a station exceeds more than 5 hours.

This rate includes cleaning, watering, power, shunting charges, all the amenities provided in the car (e.g. refrigerator, crockery, cutlery, linen), as well as the attendant who accompanies you throughout the tour.

If your tour begins and/or ends elsewhere than the place where the tourist car is stabled (not all tourist cars are stabled at the headquarters of the railways), empty haulage is charged to and from that stabling station, to the station of your need. These rates are Re. 1/- per Km., irrespective of the category of the car.

4. The application of the allotment for a tourist car must be made to the Chief Operating Superintendent of any one of India's nine zonal railway headquarters under whom the starting station lies. (To ascertain this, you would need the assistance of a travel agent.) The application should be accompanied by a deposit of Rs. 750/- which is later adjusted against the charges leviable for the entire tour. The correct charges are worked out by the Chief Commercial Superintendent after the acceptance of the proposed itinerary by the Chief Operating Superintendent.

5. The maximum number of people that can travel on a first class airconditioned and non-airconditioned tourist car, is between 8-10 people.

6. A travel agent can if given prior notice, arrange for a guide speaking different languages, to accompany you on the trip, to overcome the language barrier.

7. We suggest three interesting tours on the tourist car:

(a) A tour of the historical places in Rajasthan, covering approximately 1,488 Kms. Starting from Jaipur – Bikaner – Jodhpur – Jaisalmer – Udaipur. For enquiries contact Western Railway, Bombay.

(b) A tour from Goa, covering 1,120 Kms. Starting from Goa – Badami (from here drive to the ancient ruins of Aihole and Pattadkal) – Bijapur – Hospet (a short drive to Hampi) – Goa. For enquiries contact South Central Railway, Secunderabad.

(c) A tour of the religious places in South India, covering 1,462 Kms. Starting from Madras – Pondicherry – Tanjore – Tiruchirapalli – Rameswaram – Madurai (from here you can take off for the Periyar Game Sanctuary or travel up to Kodaikanal Road by train, and then drive upto Kodaikanal, a resort in the hills) – Madras. For enquiries contact Southern Railways, Madras.

All these tours are on the meter gauge line. In each of these cases, the Chief Operating Superintendent of the relevant railway should be contacted.

Should you not have enough time to travel leisurely on a tourist car, but you wish to see most of India in

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gions of India. A few of the old steamers are still running and several are in the new rail museum in Delhi along with the great old saloons. New steam engines, highly streamlined, ply the rails with the diesel locos; but any railway man will sadly admit that the future lies with the electrics.

In 1925 the Great Indian Peninsula Railway was brought under State control and after Independence, all the private railways were integrated into one State controlled system, divided into nine zones. The railways are now almost self sufficient. Importation of parts and raw materials is negligible; their own yards handle all problems and production; they even export carriages. What today's trains may have lost in romance, they have made up in efficiency. There are no more schedules like that of the

the minimum time, you can avail of the Travel-As-You-Like ticket, which is also called the Indrail Pass. This ticket allows you to travel anywhere in India on whichever train you choose, including the superfast trains – on a consolidated ticket. The minimum fare is $70 for airconditioned trains. This ticket is valid for 7 days only. The maximum fare is $260 for air-conditioned trains and the validity of this ticket is 90 days. Similarly, for non-airconditioned first class travel, the fares vary from $35 for a 7 day ticket to $130 for a 90-day ticket. You are given enough options in-between, to travel from a fortnight to two months. The fares of each vary according to the length of the trip. Children are allowed a 50% concession.

However, the criteria for purchasing this ticket is, that it is available only to foreigners and Indians residing abroad, who are holding valid passports on payment of foreign exchange.

028544

SUPERFAST TRAINS

There are several superfast trains that one can travel on, to cut down the time on long distance travelling. These trains run between the main cities of India, as well as a few which are specially routed to places of tourist interest.

1. Bi-weekly Rajdhani Express: Bombay – Delhi. Travels 1388 Kms. in 16 hrs. - 45 mins. Stops at Baroda – Ratlam – Kota.
2. Bi-weekly Rajdhani Express: Delhi – Calcutta. Travels 1445 Kms. in 17 hrs. Stops at Kanpur – Mughal Sarai – Dhanbad.
3. Bi-weekly Coromandel Express: Madras – Calcutta. Travels 1662 Kms. in 25 hrs. Stops at Vijaywada – Waltair – Bhubaneshwar.
4. Bi-weekly Ganga Cauvery Express: Madras – Varanasi. Travels 2045 Kms. in 37 hrs. Stops at Vijaywada – Kazipet – Balharshah – Nagpur – Itarsi – Allahabad.
5. Bi-weekly Jammu Tawi Superfast: Bombay – Jammu Tawi. Travels 2007 Kms. in 28 hrs. Stops at Surat – Baroda – Ratlam – Kota – Delhi – Ambala – Ludhiana – Jullunder.
6. Tri-weekly Tamil Nadu Express: Madras – Delhi. Travels 2188 Kms. in 29 hrs. Stops at Vijaywada – Kazipet – Nagpur – Bhopal – Jhansi.
7. Bi-weekly Andhra Pradesh Express: Secunderabad – Delhi. Travels 1617 Kms. in 21 hrs. Stops at Kazipet – Balharshah Bhopal-Jhansi –
8. Daily Pink City Express: Delhi – Jaipur. Travels 308 Kms. in 4 hrs. 45 mins. Stops at Alwar.
9. Daily Taj Express: Delhi – Agra. Travels 195 Kms. in 3 hrs. 05 mins. Stops at Mathura – Hazrat Nizamuddin.
10. Daily Deccan Queen: Bombay – Pune. Travels 192 Kms. in 3 hrs. 10 mins. Stops at Karjat – Lonavala – Shivajinagar.
11. Daily Brindavan Express: Madras – Bangalore. Travels 358 Kms. in 5 hrs. 30 mins. Stops at Katpadi – Jolarpettai.

CIRCULAR TOURS

The railways offer over 70 standard circular tours, the tickets of which are issued at 15% concessional rates of the full tariff fare. These tours cover most of the pilgrim centres, and places of historical and cultural importance. One can also draw out one's own itinerary for a circular tour, subject to a few conditions. (a) The tour should be reasonably circular, starting and terminating at the same station, but it should not be a return journey by the same route. (b) It must cover a minimum distance of 2,400 Kms. (c) The chargeable distance, covered by the tour should work out not less than three times the distance between the starting station and the farthest station from the starting point on the itinerary, by the direct route. The validity of the circular tour ticket depends on the distance to be travelled:

From 2,400 Kms. – 3,000 Kms. the validity is for 30 days.

From 3001 Kms. – 5,000 Kms. the validity is for 60 days.

From 5,001 Kms and above, the validity is for 90 days.

Any travel agent will be able to furnish you the details. Should you wish to contact the railways directly, the Chief Commercial Suprintendent of any one of the nine zonal railways should be contacted.

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famous Nineteenth Century Imperial Mail. Strictly First Class, she had no fixed departure time from Bombay. She left, according to the railway handbook, five hours after the P & O Steamer arrived from London at Ballard Pier, speeding her sahibs in thirty-six hours straight across the plains to Calcutta. Her successor, the 'Toofan', was even faster, disdaining to stop between the point of departure and the ultimate destinations.

Today's trains stop and serve the people while maintaining a reasonable speed. The Rajdhani Express between Delhi and Calcutta, at 120 kilometers per hour, was the first to break the long-standing rate of 100 KPH. There have been many other innovations: airconditioned compartments in 1936 replaced the traditional 'khus' screens (made of fragrant woven grass known to produce a cooling effect), hung across the windows and kept damp to extinguish risk of incurring sunstroke or apoplexy. Also in 1936 the Jodhpur State Railway introduced the first electric lights in trains. Steel compartments replaced the wooden ones; locomotives became much lighter. The Garrett Engine in the Delhi museum weighed 234 tons; today's are a more 85,300 pounds.

Riding along in a private tourist car it is difficult to remember one is in the Twentieth Century, let alone appreciate all the effort, past and present, which has made the railways possible. Behind the scenes, railway men deal everyday with the routine and the not-so-routine. Someone had to deal with the circus tiger who escaped and terrorized Jhansi station; with the snakes who slipped away from their charmer in a crowded third class compartment and with the Sikh passenger whose beard was ignighted by cinders from a wood-burning engine. Trains have in the past played their role in history, providing crucial transport during war and famine; conveying Gandhi's ashes to the Ganges; carrying thousands of people to pilgrimages; hundreds to weddings.

Although keeping tabs on freight is a nagging problem, passengers are rarely lost and only once, to anyone's knowledge, has a train been misplaced. That was in the very early days when a ship bringing India its first locomotives somehow missed the entire sub-continent and ended up in Australia.

Travelling by train, there are people to talk to. In India there is always someone willing to strike up a conversation. The train traveller who is interested in India and Indians will be richly rewarded if he makes himself comfortable in kurta pajama or caftan like many of his travelling companions, and assume an air of wanting to talk. He might even bring along something to share – cigarettes, snacks or magazines. Certainly people will share with him.

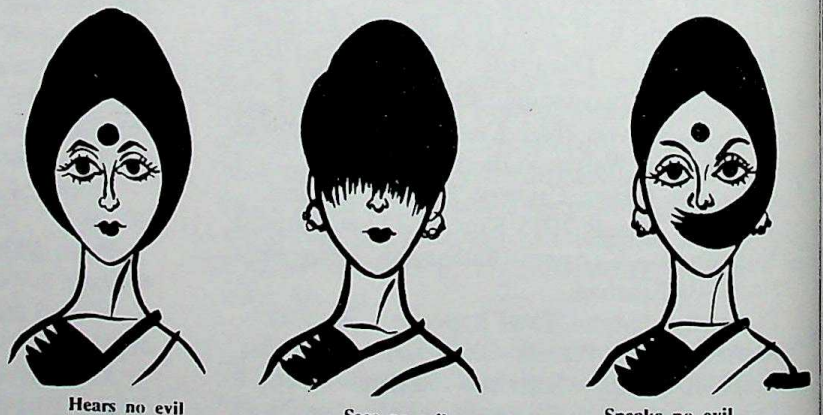
This interchange will not be restricted to the train ride itself. Train stations and railway waiting rooms are microcausms of India, with their hawkers and porters and passengers camping out on the quai. Some of the stations, like Victoria Terminus in Bombay, the Howrah Junction, and the little wood-and-brick ones on the way to Simla are worthy of a visit even if there is no railway journey intended.

Almost every station of any size will have its Railway Waiting Rooms. These, like train compartments, are divided into classes and, very strictly, into Ladies and Gentlemen. The First Class Waiting Rooms in the larger stations are unisex and can be reserved in advance. They often have hot water bathrooms, comfortable beds and big ceiling fans. In case of delay, or a long wait between trains, they can be life-savers.

Protocol on Indian trains has perhaps diminished since Independence. In British days every retiring Viceroy departed India by ship from Bombay. Having come up to that point by train, he traditionally shook hands with the rail guard who had conducted him safely thus far. These Anglo-Indian guards were well known for their own special brand of Queen's English. When one retiring Viceroy proferred his hand, the guard quite earnestly shook it saying, "Your Excellency. I am so happy you are leaving."

Having ridden the Indian rails like a rajah, you will not be happy you are leaving, but you will be leaving happily.

THE MODERN INDIAN MISS...



Hears no evil

Sees no evil

Speaks no evil

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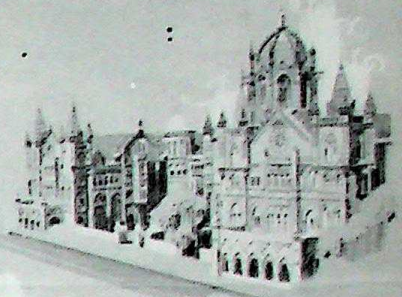
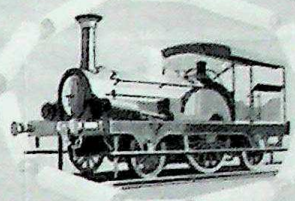
Rail connections to places of tourist interest in India

An Indian Porter

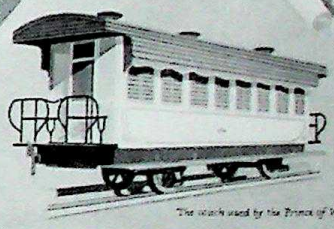


Victoria Terminus, Bombay



The Fairy Queen, the oldest locomotive in India

His Highness of Mysore's private saloon



The coach used by the Prince of Wales, during his visit to India

The emblem of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway as it was in 1849

Gulmarg
Pahalgam
Srinagar
Jammu Tawi
Dalhousie
Manali
Kulu
Pathankot
Amritsar
Ludhiana
Chandigarh
Massoorie
Badrinath
Kedarnath
Joshimath
Ambala
Delhi
Rishikesh
Corbett National Park
Hardwar
Nainital
Kathgodam
NEW DELHI
Bikaner
Mathura
Alwar
Agra
Sariska
Jaisalmer
Jodhpur
Bijaipur
JAIPUR
Kanpur
Ajmer
Sawai Madhopur
Gwalior
Bundi
Jhansi
Allahabad
Sarnath
Varanasi
Nalanda
Chittorgarh
Kotu
Shivpuri National Park
Harrapur
Rajgir
Mt. Abu
UDAIPUR
Khajuraho
Mughalsarai
Gaya
Abu Road
Bodhgaya
Dhanbad
Ratlam
Sanchi
AHMEDABAD
Indore
Bhopal
Jabalpur
Junagadh
Manka
Baroda
Kanha (Hill)
CALCUTTA
Itarsi
Gir Forest
Surat
Nagpur
BHUBANESHWAR
Konarak
Puri
Ajanta Ellora
Aurangabad
Balharshah
THE ARABIAN SEA
BOMBAY
Karla Caves
Lonavala
TUNE
Waltair
Secunderabad
Karaper
HYDERABAD
Bijapur
Vijaywada
Aihole
Badami
Pattadkal
GOA
Hospet
Hampi
Tirupati
Hoisala
Halebid
Belur
Hassan
Shravanbelgola
MADRAS
MAMALLAPURAM
BANGALORE
Mahabalipuram
Kanchipuram
Coorg
Mysore
Pondicherry
Bandipur
Mudumalai
Ooty
Coonoor
Metupalayam
Kodaikanal
Tanjore
Tiruchirapalli
Kodaikanal Road
Periyar
Rameswaram
MADURAI
Trivandrum
Tirunelveli
Kovalam
Kanya Kumari
THE BAY OF BENGAL
THE INDIAN OCEAN

KEY

- Tourist places connected by broad gauge
- Tourist places connected by meter gauge
- Tourist places connected by narrow gauge
- Closest broad gauge rail connections to tourist spots
- Closest meter gauge rail connections to tourist spots
- Motorable roads from closest rail connections
- Non-motorable roads from closest rail connections
- Suggested tours on a tourist car
- Superfast trains. Details overleaf
- Monuments and pilgrim centres
- ▲ Beach Resorts
- Game Sanctuaries
- Hill stations

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BOMBAY

The Gateway of India

By Asha Dhar

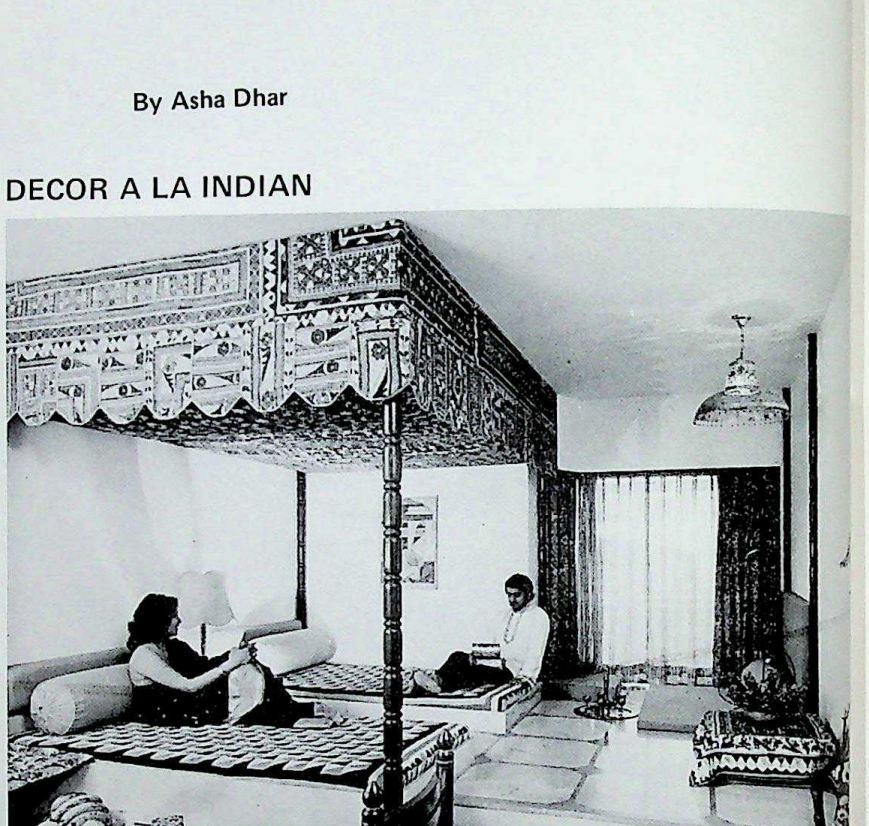
New York was ceded to the settlers for a handful of trinkets;. Bombay was sold to the East India Company for £ 10/-by Charles II. New York is an island metropolis, so is Bombay. But, New York is relatively a new city. Bombay has hoary origins: it is a cluster of seven islands, called 'Heptanasia' by Ptolemy in 150 A.D.

The city's most well-known landmark is the Gateway of India, an impressive archway overlooking the harbour, which was built to commemorate the visit of King George V in 1911 – and has welcomed many other visitors since. It is an impressive fusion of Muslim and Hindu architectural styles. Within walking distance of the Gateway is the Prince of Wales Museum, a lovely domed building set in palm-fringed gardens, notable for rare collections of coins, miniature paintings, exquisite jades and its Natural History section. Next door is the Jehangir Art Museum where exhibitions of contemporary Indian paintings are continually held. Not far off is Flora Fountain (or Hutatma Chowk) which is the business centre of the city, surrounded by offices, banks, colleges and shops – a spot where peace and quiet descend only on Sundays.

SIGHTSEEING TRIPS .

At the Gateway of India one can catch a luxury launch or a ferry for a 9-km. trip through Bombay Harbour to the Elephanta Caves, so christened by the Portuguese, after a monumental stone elephant then at its entrance – now at the Prince of Wales Museum. The boat services are operated throughout the year except June to September, during the hazardous monsoon season. The massive sculptured panels, chiselled out of the rock walls of the caves, date back to 7th century A.D. Most renowned is the Maheshamurti (the Great Lord), a 18-foot triple image portraying the Trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva (the Creator, Preserver and Destroyer). One panel shows a manifestation of Shiva combining the male and female forms. Another depicts Shiva and his consort, Parvati In the harbour, en route to Elephanta one can see old-style fishing boats alongside modern tankers. Oil from these tankers goes to Trombay's shining refineries. Behind them are the Tata Electricity Plant and the Trombay Atomic Reactor.

DECOR A LA INDIAN



Bombay's hotels are among the most luxurious in the world. Indian decor distinguishes most of their interiors.

MARINE DRIVE, BEACHES, ETC.

Skirting along the Back Bay of Bombay is the Marine Drive (Netaji

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Subhash Road), also known as the Queen's Necklace; since that is what its glittering night lights trace out when seen from the Hanging Gardens on the posh Malabar Hill. Apart from the panoramic view, the Hanging Gardens are noted for a multitude of necking couples. From the Kamla Nehru (children's) Park on the slopes of Malabar Hill one can also see the Chowpatty Beach, which is filled with throngs of people, be they Maharashtrians, Goans, Gujaratis, Parsees, South Indians, North Indians or tourists. Centring around the statue of Lokmanya Balgangadar Tilak in Chowpatty, one can listen to declamatory political speeches, like those in Hyde Park corner, in London. One can meanwhile carefully partake of savoury-spicy *bhelpuri* and then frozen *kulfi* along the tang of the seaside. In the distance, at the other end of the Marine Drive, is Nariman Point with its soaring glass-and-concrete skyscraper skyline. On the birthday of the elephant-god Ganesh, his images are immersed in the sea at Chowpatty Beach amidst rejoicing by the rich and poor alike.

If you are adventurous you can go to the Chor Bazar (the so-called "Thieves Market"), where , anything from a 19th century Russian chandeliar to a gaily painted hand-cranked gramaphone that still works, can be had. If you are affluent, the place for you is the Jhaveri Bazaar (the Jeweller's Market), where exquisite gold and enamelled jewels can be purchased – or window-shopped. If you have a penchant for gambling you can visit the Mahalaxmi Race Course, one of the finest in India. If you have religious inclinations, close by is the Mahalaxmi Temple – dedicated to the goddess of wealth and fortune – perched on the edge of the sea. Or, try the Babulnath temple, near Chowpatty Beach, or, the Jain Temple atop the ridge of Malabar Hill, or, the 500-year old Haji Ali Mosque (near the Mahalaxmi temple) or the Worli Buddhist Temple, facing it across a small bay.

OLD AND THE NEW

Gateway of India, built to commemorate the visit of King George V in 1911, is flanked by the modern Taj Intercontinental Hotel – one of the many first-rate hotels in Bombay. *Photo – I.T.D.C.*

CITY VIEW

Bombay's panorama is unique for staid Victorian Gothic architecture rambling alongside modern concrete and glass highrise. *Photo – I. T. D. C.*

And there's Mount Mary's Church in the picturesque Bandra district. No matter what your religious inclination may be, you will be satisfied.

VIBRANT AND COSMOPOLITAN

If you go to the Juhu beach, you'll find it rather crowded on week ends, a palm-fringed area, promising Sun-N-Sand, which incidentally, is the name of a deluxe hotel there. Alternatively, there are the quieter Madh, Marve and Manori beaches-all within 45-km. range of Bombay. Camel rides constitute an added tourist attraction on all these beaches. Gandhi Smriti Mandir,-situated on a hill in the National Park (35 km., railhead Borivali) attracts many Indians,

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whether they are domestic tourists or those from abroad. For viewing wild life, there is the Lion Safari Park where the Indian lion can be seen from special, closed vehicles. At the Karnala Bird Sanctuary, the visitors can spot the rare Ashy Minivet.

Bombay is charming, enchanting, vibrant and a cosmopolitan city, replete with temples of all religions and creeds, and inhabitants from all corners of India. You can see fashionable jet-set Sari-clad ladies sauntering down the Colaba roads and beyond the Colaba market, the village of the Kolis, one of the original fishing tribes, after whom Colaba is named. Nearby is the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, which is of an international standard. Across the Back Bay is the Chowpatty Beach where the street-dwellers dance and you eat the famous *bhelpuri* of Bombay.

Bombay is industrially advanced. The first cotton mills in India were set up here, and today, fertilizer and chemical plants contribute to its smog and pollution. There is always something on in Bombay, by way of dance, drama or a musical festival. The Government of India Tourist Office supplies a little folder WELCOME TO BOMBAY which contains a lot of information plus the programmes of cultural activities of the fort-night. Bombay is also the centre of India's flourishing film industry. (India makes the largest number of feature films per year in the world; in the year 1978-79, 619 feature films were made in 14 languages.) Bombay offers all the specialities of diverse Indian cuisine. All these and more adventures are yours in Bombay.

FASHION METROPOLIS

Cosmopolitan Bombay is very fashion conscious. Fashion parades are a regular feature at Taj Intercontinental, Oberoi-Sheraton and other hotels.

Bombay is well-connected by the Indian Airlines with major cities in India, and abroad via Air India. Regular rail services (air-conditioned to Delhi, Calcutta and Madras) operate between Bombay and the main cities and tourist centres all over the country. The city is also linked by a network of national and state highways. The Victoria Terminus is one of the largest buildings, designed by F.W. Stevens in the Indian Gothic style. It has a life-size statue of Queen Victoria in front of the central facade. And the first train to steam out of Bombay was from V.T. to Thana in 1853.

OLDEST IN EAST

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From Filmland

Priyalata Pal

"DILLAGI" : HEART — WARMING

Basu Chatterji follows his familiar trail, by now well-established by "Rajnigandha", "Chotisi Baat", "Chitchor" and others, of providing light entertainment based on home-spun romance, in Bikramjeet Films' "Dillagi". From start to finish this is the usual pattern woven by Basu Chatterji, with none of the ingredients that go to make commercial cinema.

And yet, there is enough in "Dillagi" to entertain the young-at-heart and those who want their entertainment neat.

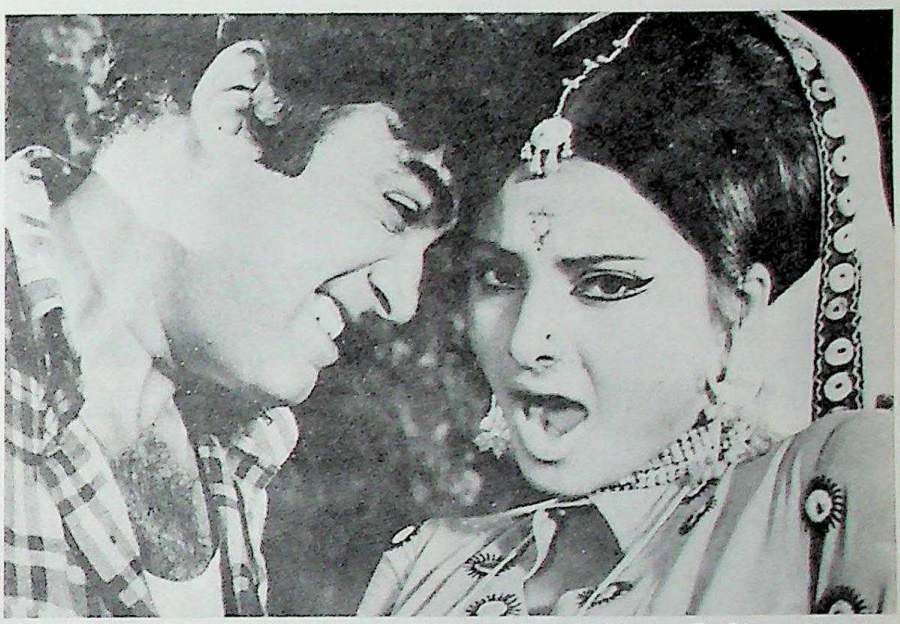
The story by Bimal Kar is the type that Basu loves. A young lecturer in Sanskrit is enamoured of a lecturer in Chemistry in the same college. While the former is romantic, poetic and effusive, the latter is strict, self denying and school-marmish.

Towards the fag-end of the film, Basu introduces a quickie fight between the hero and a gang of thugs in typical Hindi film style. Mercifully, the fight sequence is short and for a change, the hero emerges out bruised, battered and shattered like any human being.

Dharmendra and Hema Malini play the romantic pairs. They look different and behave differently from all their other previous films — in "Dillagi". Deven Varma, Asrani, Urmila Bhatt, Keshto Mukherjee, and Shatrughan Sinha are effective in their roles. Mithu Mukherjee is brilliantly handled as a love-lorn lecturer.

Good music by Rajesh Roshan and beautiful lyrics by Yogesh give "Dillagi" the touch of competence that Basu Chatterji films have. The final gloss is provided by K.K. Mahajan, whose photography is eye filling.

"Dillagi" like all other Basu Chatterji films makes for heart warming entertainment for the entire family.



Sanjeev Kumar and Rekha are seen thus in producer-director R. Bhattacharya's 'Sawan Ke Geet'.

"DEVATA": MELODRAMATIC, BUT POWERFUL

What was good for the Tamil stage and screen may not necessarily be as good for the Hindi screen. This has been proved out in N.N. Sippy's "Devata". The amount of talent that has been lavished on the Hindi filmisation could be the envy of any producer. N.N. Sippy however missed making "Devata" into a near-classic, with all the talent he has marshalled for its making.

Adorning the roster of talent are Sanjeev Kumar, Shabana Azmi, Danny Denzongpa, Benjamin Gilani, Dr. Shriram Lagoo, Rakesh Roshan, Sarika, Gulzar and R.D. Burman.

True, Sanjeev Kumar, Danny, Shabana, Dr. Lagoo, and others have contributed sterling performances, R.D. Burman has produced a good musical score and Gulzar has contributed an excellent script. But, the overall impact is one of diffused glory.

The story, to begin with is melodramatic, with shades of Jean Valjean (of "Les Miserables") — of an accidental murder, escape from the clutches of the law, return to the scene of murder after a lapse of

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several years of prosperity in life and final retribution.

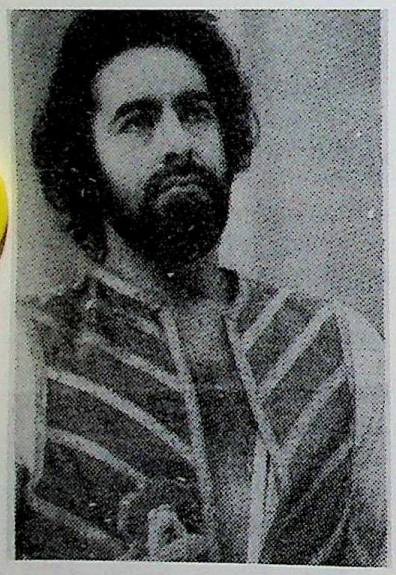
Even if it misses becoming a classic, "Devata" is a dramatic experience – thanks to the cast.

KABIR BEDI TO WED

Indian movie actor Kabir Bedi, a new arrival at the Hollywood film scene, will be getting married to fashion designer Susan Humphrey on February 1.

Bedi, for whom this will be the second marriage, is expected to introduce his prospective bride to an Indian audience at the Meralta Theatre in Los Angeles on January 20.

Jag Mohan Mundhra, a local exhibitor who runs the theater, has arranged a special showing of a Bedi starrer "Kachche Dhaage," to mark the occasion.

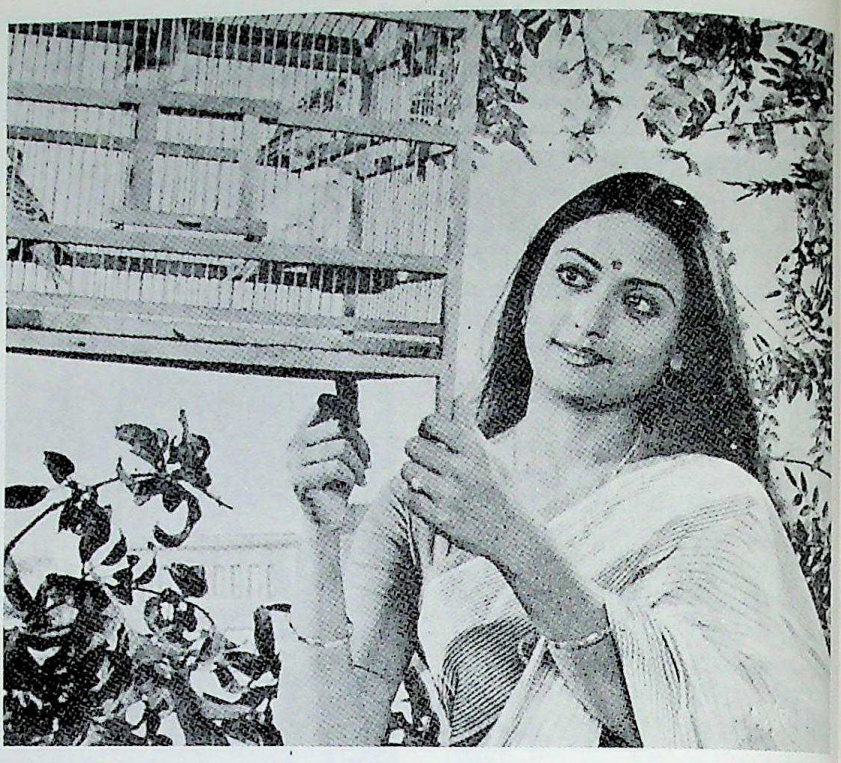


American audiences had their first chance to see Indian filmstar Kabir Bedi with the release of his film "The Thief of Bagdad," in which he played the leading role of the prince. The film also starred other top British and U.S. actors. The $3 million picture was distributed internationally by Columbia Pictures.

Bedi's next U.S. release will be a starring role in "Ashanti" to be filmed on location in Israel and Southern Italy. The $9 million budgeted film will be directed by Georges-Alain Vuille.

Bedi's handsome looks caused quite a stir in Europe recently where he appears as a pirate on the popular series "Sandokan." His performance has garnered him France's highest television honor, the prestigious "Tele-7-Jour Award."

Bedi recently decided to make Hollywood his new home. He was born in Lahore, 32 years ago. Later his family emigrated to Kashmir.



Pets comfort handicapped girl. A "blind" Rameshwari in 'Sunayana'.

FILM TITBITS

Eminent Editor and Film Technician Pran Mehra is dead. Like all others overcome by tension and the travails of film making, he too died an untimely and early death.

Associated with leading production camps like B.R. Chopra, F.C. Mehra, Sunil Dutt and Yash Chopra, Pran Mehra was a master craftsman. He had launched out on his own production "Dwohi Baat". The film has not yet been released.

* * * * * * * *

B.R. Chopra is thinking of making a film with Dilip Kumar in the central role. He is negotiating with some of the heroines of yesteryear to co-star with him in this project. Sanjeev Kumar is back on the studio floors after his recent illness, and did some scenes for Khalid Akhtar's "Ladies' Tailor". He had also done a stint of shooting for some other films. He has given up smoking and drinking and is eating only boiled vegetables, since the doctors found traces of sugar in his blood. He said this was hereditary and nothing to be worried about. But for these restrictions, he looked in the pink of health and was very active and alert. He said he would not be doing any strenuous work for the next few weeks under doctor's advice.

* * * * * * * *

Tarachand Barjatya, one of the veteran and most distinguished film makers is at it again. He has lined up as many as seven films, for production and release this year. Most of them are in advanced stages of production. Tarachand Barjatya

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Divine flutist with his beloved. Sachin and Zarina Wahab in 'Gopaal Krishna'.

has always been noted for the discovery of new talent, either in acting or in other departments of film-making. He had, never wanted to make a lot of money, but was keen on making a lot of good films and bring out talent in various fields, for the industry. It will be remembered that it was after his "Chitchor" became a hit, Zarina Wahab, Amol Palekar and Vijendra and playback singer Yesudas hit the top. It was also in 'Tapasya' that Raakhee re-emerged as a distinguished actress.

* * * * * * * *

On the eve of the sixtieth death anniversary of Saint Sai Baba of Shirdi, Gramaphone Company has brought out an extended play record of bhajans in Hindi devoted to the saint. The bhajans-four in all – have been written by Kalindi Prasad Srivastav and set to tunes by Ashok Patki and Preeti Sagar has rendered them in a soulful voice. The two best of the four bhajans are "Sai Baba anteryami" and "Jab Jab hum par vipada aai".

* * * * * * * *

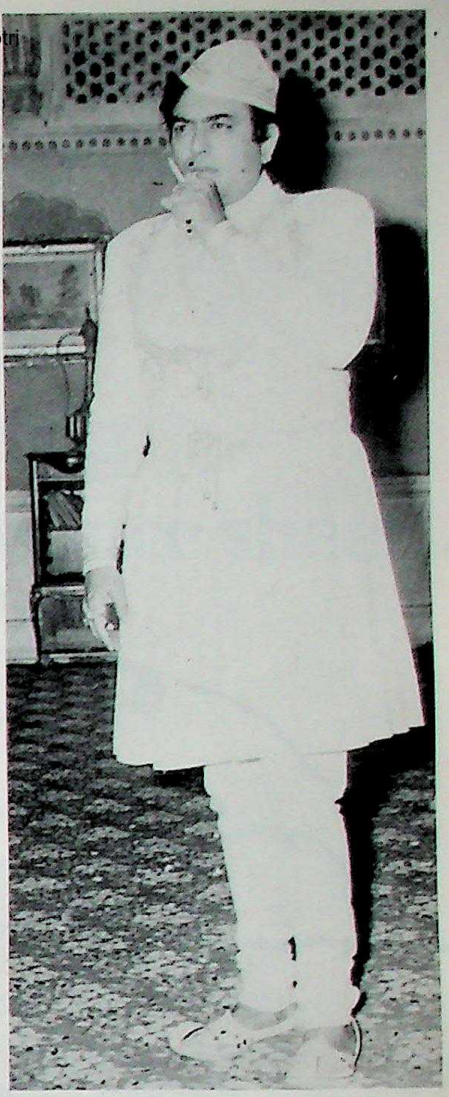
A leading stunt co-ordinator of Hollywood, Buddy Van Horn, who did "Magnum Force" and Clint Eastwood movies, will do the action sequences for Dev Anand's "Loot Maar". Buddy will come to India in December to select the locations and make other arrangements for the action sequences.

* * * * * * * *

A pioneer of the Indian Cinema, Dhirendranath Ganguly died on November 17, at Calcutta. With his passing away, a direct link between the silent and talkie eras of the Indian cinema comes to an end. Besides being an actor, he had directed about 53 Bengali films and was the recipient of the Dada Saheb Phalke Award last year.

* * * * * * * *

A Delhi stage and diploma holder in acting – Sunder Taneja has signed 64 films in just 5 months. Young, tall and handsome, Sunder has several top producer's films including J. Om's 'Aas Paas', Sagar's 'Prem Bandhan', Balbir's 'Santosh', Raja Nawathe's 'Challenge', Nadiadwalla's 'Khoon aur Paani', plus he is working in Rajshri's three films and a number of other films.



Sanjeev Kumar on the sets of "Nawab aur Shabab".

ACUPUNCTURE INDIAN?

A 2,000-year-old Sanskrit book found in Sri Lanka reveals that acupuncture is an Indian science, according to Dr.Arjun Agarwal, director of the Indian Acupuncture Research and Training Centre in Raipur.

Showing photostat copies of the book to pressmen, Dr. Agarwal said that he found in the book diagrams showing points on the body for acupuncture.

It also revealed that acupuncture need not be done by needles but could be done by pressing, massaging or fomentation of particular points on the body.

He said Buddhist priests and monks were good acupuncturists. Even before the Buddhist period, several practices in acupuncture likeneedling of ears were traditional in India.

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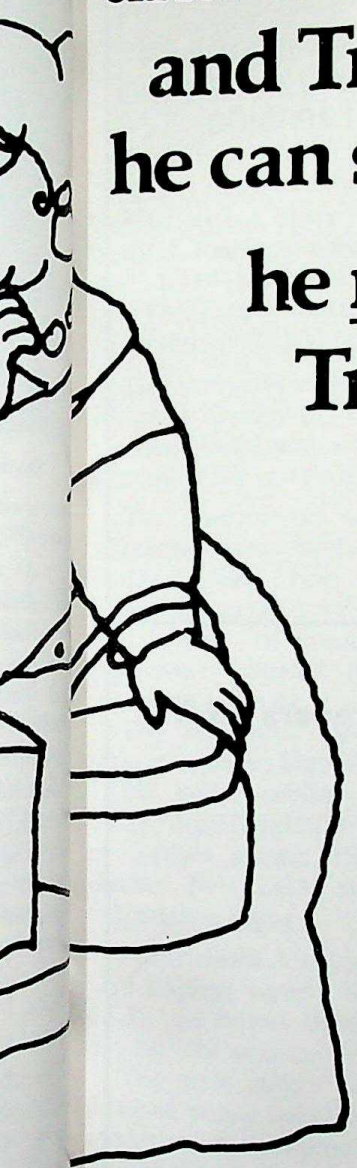
reaming up an arithmetical solution enger with excess baggage, and re-checking the Load and Trim Sheet of a Boeing, he can still balance the balance sheet..

he must be an Air-India Traffic Officer.



A mathematical wizard, our Airport Traffic Officer. Figures love him, always besiege him. And he's never quite himself without them. Kilos, grams, flight timings, 'jet-lags'.

Give him a late-arrival flight. And a dozen businessmen who've missed their onward connections and swear their allegiance to us! He knows they won't be in the mood for love, not with us—so what does he do— he helps to flex their elbows and all is whole again.

He will juggle figures with the ease of a computer. The total weight of his 747 won't be a kilo over 351,000 kgs. And when a family of tourists comes off a flight, not speaking a word of English or Hindi, his sign language will guide them to a hotel of their choice.

He is only doing his job. Because he knows there is someone very special on board.

You, dear passenger.

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Tours & Travel

RAJDHANI EXPRESS OFFERS ALL MODERN COMFORTS

The twice-weekly Rajdhani Express service, operated by India's Western Railway, now covers the vital 1,384 kilometre Bombay – New Delhi trunk route at speeds of up to 120 kph in less than 17 hours.

This compares with the previous 19 hours 20 minutes between Bombay and Delhi and 19 hours five minutes in the reverse direction.

The 'luxury on wheels' (the marketing name used) service has achieved these time savings six years after its inauguration with the introduction of more improved equipment coupled with fewer stop-overs en route.

The vestibuled air-conditioned train now leaves Bombay Central at 16.00 hours, arrives Baroda at 20.38, departs again at 20.45, stops at Ratlam around midnight and reaches New Delhi at 08.50 the following morning.

In the return direction, the Rajdhani Express departs New Delhi at 17.35 and arrives Bombay Central at 11.05 the next day.

The train offers fully air-conditioned sitting and sleeping accommodation in dust-proof, noise-free slumberette chair-cars and cushioned sleeper coaches. One-way Bombay-Delhi chaircar seat fare is Rs. 144 (US$18.40) while the sleeper tariff is Rs. 465 ($59.30).

The express comprises four chair-car coaches seating a total of 312 passengers and one sleeper, which can accommodate 18 passengers. When there is sufficient demand, a fifth chair-car coach is added.

ALL ABOARD

All aboard for New Delhi on the Rajdhani Express.

Passengers' food is prepared in kitchens in Bombay and New Delhi and is preserved in and served from a separate, well-equipped pantry car attached to each train. In addition, a mini-pantry is incorporated within every chair-car coach.

In each direction, a service of evening tea or coffee with snack/dinner/morning tea or coffee and breakfast is provided at a cost of Rs. 25 ($3.20) for sleeper passengers and Rs. 15 ($1.90) for those travelling in the chair-car coaches. These charges are incorporated within the rail fare.

On cash payment, hot and cold beverages and snacks are also available.

Other features of the Rajdhani Express, which caters to both Indians and foreign tourists holding 'Indrail' passes, include a public address system to relay announcements and news broadcasts and a library equipped with books, magazines and children's comics.

— M. Sundaresan

NEW MANAGER

Mr. Joe R. Gomes, Air-India's manager-reservations and ticket sales, based in New Delhi, has been transferred to become the carrier's manager in Bahrain, West Asia-Gulf, after four years working in New Delhi.

Mr. Gomes

Mr. Gomes takes over from Mr. Bobby Kaul who has been transferred to Bombay to take up a new post as first representative.

Mr. Gomes, who joined Air-India 20 years ago, had worked in Cairo, Jakarta, Manila and Calcutta.

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MR. M.S. OBEROI NAMED "WINNER OF 1978"

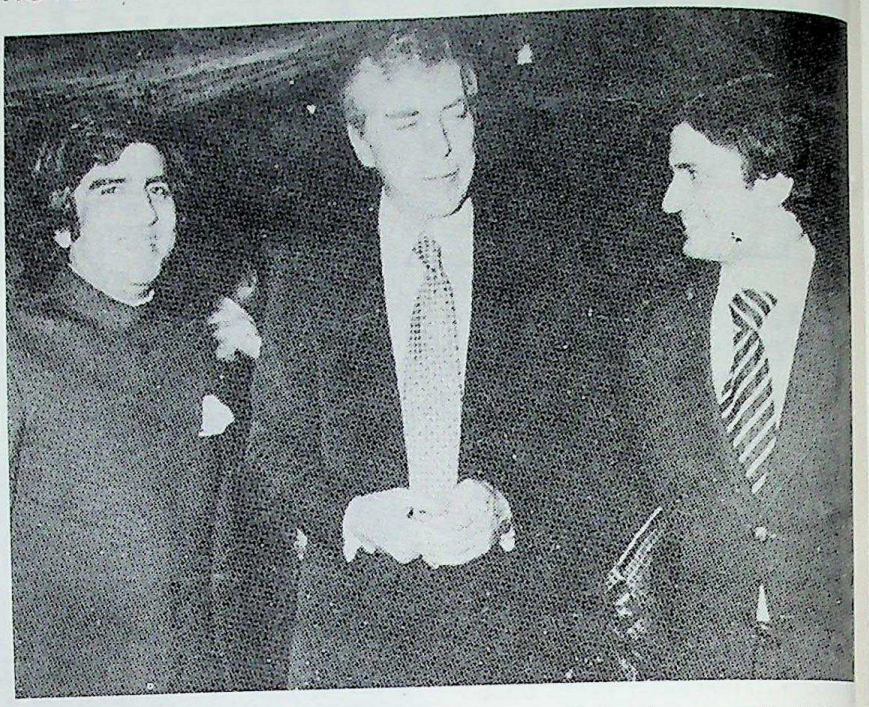
M. S. Oberoi, Chairman of East India Hotels Ltd. and Oberoi Hotels International, has been named by the internationally circulated American newsmagazine Newsweek as one of the elite "Winners of 1978" who have, in the course of the year, made the most significant contribution to the enlargement of world business and economy.

Mr. Mohan Singh Oberoi, Chairman, The East India Hotels Ltd. and Oberoi Hotels International.

The newsmagazine also carried a story on Mr. Mohan Singh Oberoi entitled "Hotels: The Oberoi Touch ". It covered his career from the time he walked penniless into the Cecil Hotel in Simla in 1922 and found a job as desk clerk on $6 a month, to the present day, where at 77, he is India's top hotelkeeper and head of a chain of hotels that spans three continents, located in such diverse destinations as Canary Isles, Cairo and Aswan, Kathmandu, Colombo, Singapore, Bali, Dammam, Zanzibar, Tahiti, besides cities in India.

Mr. Oberoi is President-of-Honour of the Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Associations of India and recipient of two national awards for his pioneering role in advancement of hotelkeeping and tourism in India.

HOTEL CHIEF HOSTS DINNER



During the recent All India Hotel and Restaurant Federation convention in Agra, the managing director of Welcomhotels and Indovilles Mr. R.K. Lakshman hosted a dinner for delegates at the Welcomhotel Mughal.

Pictured above during the evening are (left to right): Mr. Anil Bajaj, sales manager of the Welcomhotel Mughal; Mr. Bob Burns, president of Regent International Hotels; and Mr. Sarabjit Dhawan, front office manager of the Welcomhotel Kathmandu.

EXPANSION PROGRAMME

Air India's expansion programme for Africa was outlined by Mr. S.K. Verma Air India's Regional Manager for Africa when he called on Kenyan Minister for Power and Communications Dr. Isaac Okero Omolo recently.

India's national flag carrier plans to touch Lusaka in Zambia add another frequency on its Bombay, Lagos-Accra route and increase another frequency every week on its Nairobi, Bombay run, said Mr. Verma. At present Air India is operating three frequencies per week on Nairobi, Bombay route and Kenya Airways is also operating same number.

Mr. Verma also assured Kenyan Minister that Air India was co-operating with Kenya Airways. Local press reported recently highlighted acute need for additional flights to Bombay from here with reports of overbooking on this route. Nairobi Times advised readers to book at least two weeks in advance as Bombay bound flights were fully booked.

— Kul Bhushan

BEACH RESORT OPENED IN ANDAMANS

The Centaur Beach Resort, owned by the Travel Corporation of India and operated and managed by the Hotel Corporation of India, was inaugurated in the Andaman Islands by Mr. S. M. Krishnatry, chief commissioner of the Andaman and Nicobar administration.

At present, the beach resort has 32 rooms, each with a private balcony providing an unrestricted view of the Indian Ocean, the note added. Later, the hotel will be expanded to 64 rooms with a club house, swimming pool and tennis courts.

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NEW GOA OBEROI IS OFFICIALLY OPENED

The 126-room Hotel Oberoi Bogmalo Beach recently officially opened in Goa.

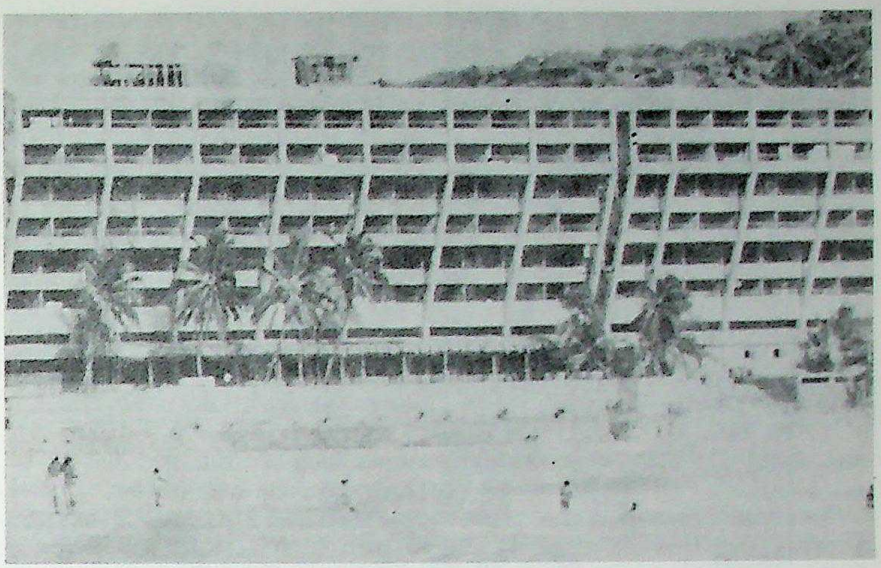
Located on what Oberoi describes as "virtually a private beach", the property is located two kilometres or five minutes' drive away from Dabolim Airport.

All rooms are air-conditioned and equipped with bath and shower, individual temperature control, direct-dial telephone and four-channel music.

Facilities of the hotel include an outdoor swimming pool with sunken bar, coffee shop-cum-restaurant overlooking the Arabian Sea, a garden barbeque area, lobby bar, discotheque, health club with sauna and massage parlour and conference room.

In addition, the Palmera restaurant offers dancing to a live band nightly while other amenities include a shopping arcade, barber shop, beauty salon and book shop.

Sporting facilities are also available for sailing, scuba diving, water-ski-ing, tennis, squash and golf.



Goa's latest hotel: the 126-room Oberoi Bogmalo Beach.

INDIA CARRIERS PLAN COMPUTER LINK-UP

Air-India and Indian Airlines are planning to introduce a joint computerised reservations system in India to link all of their offices in the country.

This was disclosed in the Lok Sabha (the lower House of the Indian Parliament) by Mr. Purushottam Kaushik, India's Minister of Tourism and Aviation.

He said the scheme would cost nearly Rs. 83 million (US$10 million) to establish, of which Indian Airlines would contribute Rs. 48 million (US$5.8 million) and Air-India the remainder.

Later, added Mr. Kaushik, the computerised system would be extended to connect Air-India's stations in the U.K., Europe and the United States.

At present, AI's overseas reservations systems are connected to British Airways' computer.

PROMOTING TOURISM

Members of Japan Womens Association of Aeronautic flew into India in a piper-28 NABAHO piloted by its members. Before they left for India, some members of JWAA visited and met Mrs. V. Pandhi, Regional Director. In the picture are, left to right, Miss N. Toyoshima, Agency Relations Officer, G. T. O., Miss Kobayashi, Mrs. T. Samura, Mrs. V. Pandhi, Regional Director and Mrs. R. Kawai.

INDIA-NEPAL RAIL LINE

India and Nepal have agreed to have a railway line between Udaipur (Nepal) and Calcutta, the Union minister of state for railway, Mr. Shiv Narain announced.

Talking to newsmen, Mr. Shiv Narain said it was proposed to construct 18,000-km-long railway lines in the country at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,200 million under the sixth five year plan. A sum of Rs. 286 million had been provided for this purpose during the current year, he added.

COMEX GROUP TO TOUR INDIA

The London-based Commonwealth expedition team of about 250 people will tour India from January 1979 for three months in a nine-coach airconditioned train, Commonwealth Expedition Express.

The COMEX 9 – there have been eight earlier ones on buses – will enable the members from different commonwealth countries to see and know more of India. The group will give concerts as it goes along.

Col Gregory is the brain behind the venture which has the Duke of Edinburgh as its patron.

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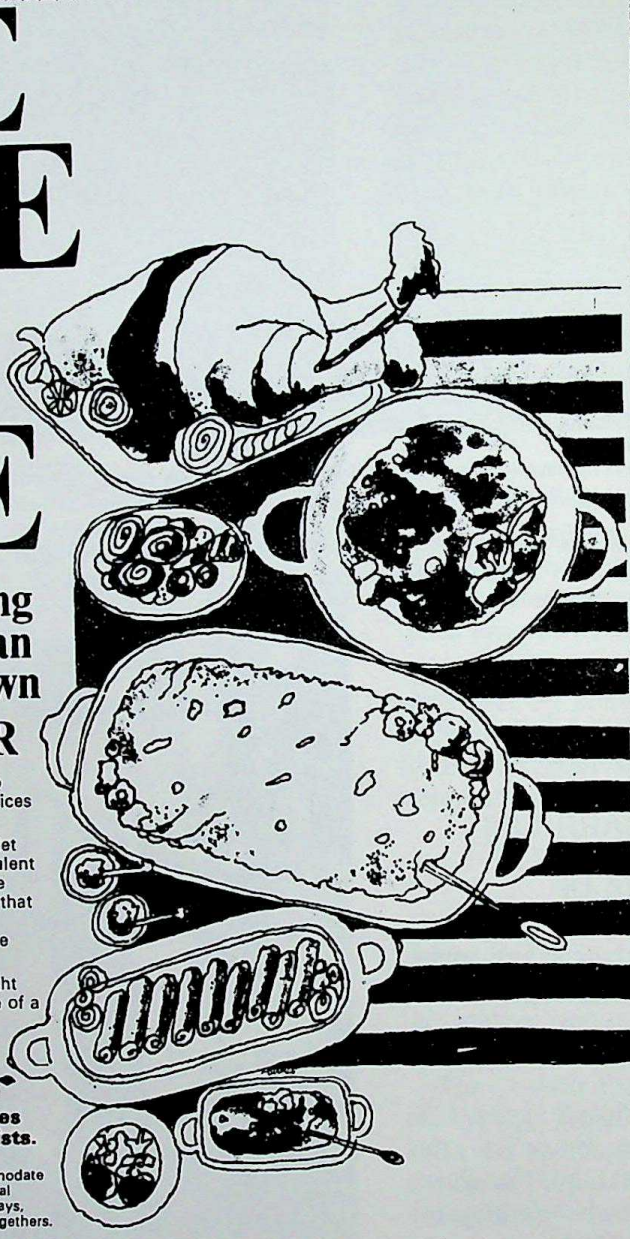
THE SPICE OF LIFE



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GOOD SCOPE OF DEVELOPING LUCKNOW FOR TOURISTS

Lucknow – This charming capital of India is biggest and perhaps the most important State of Uttar Pradesh, offers many attractions for the visitors. During a recent visit for 'The Indian', your correspondent found that the Nawabs of Awadh made the city a really different place and the people are cultured, polite and fond of good, leisurely living, sadly missing in many other places. Recently, the famed film director, Satyajit Ray made Shatranj Ke Khilari (Chess Players) here, based on Munshi Prem Chand's novel.

Lucknow has a lot to see and a lot to feel. The architecture, monuments, museum are unique and rich. The Imambaras house rich Mughal culture.

The Clarks Awadh Hotel has met the accomodation needs of the city and is making efforts to promote tourism. Several specialised groups are now coming here to see a new way of life. The Travel Corporation of India, leading travel agents, are serving the city and prospects are good. The bright, enterprising General Manager at the Clarks, Mr. B.K. Gupta is fully set to put Lucknow on the tourist map of India. With its hotels in Agra and Varanasi, The Clarks can help build the golden triangle of UP – Varanasi, Lucknow and Agra.

Meanwhile, the UP tourism Minister has said that a Janata hotel will come up in Agra and Lucknow and that the attractions of UP will be explored. It has something to offer the religious minded, the adventurous and the wild life fan.

ITC COULD BE PROUD.....

Mr. C.S. Pantal, General Manager, Hotel Mughal, Agra, presenting a souvenir to Dilip and Saira. The couple stayed in the ITC Hotel recently. Their comments were: "Admittedly an exhilarating experience! 'Mughal', its characteristic splendour, its service and cuisine, easily rates on par with the 'best' anywhere. We think ITC could truly be proud of this place."

ANNUAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Air India's Regional Director, Mr. Balendu Shah, together with all the managers from the various offices in the East Asia region, met recently at the Furama to review past performances, consider ways and means of increasing productivity and to discuss marketing strategy. Attending the two day conference from head office were Mr. I.D. Sethi, the airline's Commercial Director, Mr. H.K. Malik, Commercial Manager Cargo, and Mr. M. Gomez, Commercial Manager Marketing.

MORE HOTEL ROOMS FOR DELHI

The number of hotel rooms in ITDC hotels in Delhi will increase to nearly 2150 in the next two years as against 1300 now. This will help to meet in part the accomodation needs for the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation meet here in early 1980.

A three-star, 300 room hotel will come up by 1980 and the first phase of the Janata Hotel will be completed by then.

Ashoka Hotel, 'the flag carrier of the ITDC', is adding another 104 rooms to its 486. Akbar Hotel will add 150 rooms while 50 have already been added to the Qutab Hotel.

Meanwhile, the spectacular Taj Hotel has opened with its first phase and has added charm to the Delhi scene, already richer with Maurya last year.

– Anil Mathur

MORE INT'L FLIGHTS BANNED IN BOMBAY

The Indian Government has decided not to permit any new international flights to operate from or to Bombay till the opening of a new terminal building at Santa Cruz airport in mid 1980, according to a statement in Parliament by the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation Purushottam Kaushik.

Kaushik also stated that a Task Force Committee comprising officials of his Ministry, the International Airport Authority of India (IAAI) and the two national airlines had been set up to meet the immediate problems of heavy congestion at Bombay and Delhi airport.

The Minister conceded that traffic at the existing terminal buildings had reached "saturation point." He said extension of the facilities at Bombay at a cost of Rs. 15 crores ($20 million) and at Delhi at an estimated cost of Rs. 46 crores ($57.50 million) have been proposed and are under examination.

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Indians Abroad

MALAYSIA / SINGAPORE

INTER-RACIAL HARMONY STRENGTHENED

As usual, Indians in Malaysia and Singapore celebrated Deepavali last October with great eclat, sharing their joy with members of the other races. This participation in each other's festivals is a traditional feature of the multi-racial populations of the two countries. Indians (Hindus) held open houses during Deepavali and received Malays (native muslims), Chinese (largely Buddhists) and Europeans (Christians) into their homes, in the same way as the latter groups did during their respective festivals, such as Hari Raya (end of the Muslim fast), Chinese New Year and Christmas. It is this real inter-mixing that has largely contributed to the happy and harmonious relations existing among the various races, religions and languages in Malaysia and Singapore.

Deepavali is also an occasion for charity. Indians distributed gifts in cash and kind to the inmates of hospitals, welfare homes and educational institutions irrespective of race or religion. In Singapore, the Krishna Our Guide Society was as usual conspicuous in this respect, with its unique "Deepavali Thatha" (prototype of Father Christmas) who in his peculiar overflowing dress and distinctive cast mark on the forehead in typical Hindu fashion and loaded with sweets and other gifts went round accompanied by Indian pipers and drums to various welfare homes and distributed them to children and old people, the sick and infirm.

MINISTERS HOLD OPEN HOUSES

In Kuala Lumpur, on Deepavali day, Transport Minister and National President of the Malaysian Indian Congress (MIC), Tan Sri V. Manickavasagam, Deputy Labour and Manpower Minister Mr. K. Pathmanaban, Deputy Housing and Local Government Minister Mr. Samy Velu, and MIC Secretary-General Mr. S. Subramaniam held "open house" at their homes in the true Malaysian style and entertained a steady stream of visitors. Among those who dropped in to say Happy Deepavali were Prime Minister Datuk Hussein Onn, former Premier Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA) President Datuk Lee San Choon, Senate Speaker Tan Sri Omar Yoke-Lin Ong, members of the diplomatic corps, other VIPs as well as Malaysians from all walks of life.

CHILDREN ENTERTAINED

Tan Sri Manickavasagam also entertained 40 children from the Jalan Shaw/Jalan Loke Yew area while Mr. Samy Velu treated another 40 children from the Sentul area. Thirty children from the Petaling area visited the home of the Indian High Commissioner Mr. S.J.S. Chhatwal and another 40 children from Bungsar/Brickfields area were entertained by Mr. Pathmanaban. The visits were organised by the Federal Territory Community Relations Council. It

Deepavali celebrations committe
headed by Mr. Makhan Lal Saig
organised various other events als
for children and old folks. Thes
included the presentation of gif
by Mr. Pathmanaban to sick chil
ren at the Assunta Hospital. Welfa
Services Minister Datin Paduk
Hajjah Aishah Ghani also presente
gifts to children at the Gener
Hospital.

PEACOCK FEATHERS

Meanwhile, the lack of peacoc
feathers almost forced well-know
Malaysian dancing couple M
Sivadas and his wife Vatsala of th
Sivadas-Vatsala dance troupe
abandon their classical Peacoc
Dance. However, in the spirit
Deepavali, two costumes made
400 feathers each and costi
M$1,000 were specially flown
from India and presented to th
dancers by the Indian High Co
missioner Mr. Chhatwal. M
Chhatwal said the peacock is th
national bird of India and th
export of its feathers is banne
The gift was a special gesture
enable Malaysians to have a glimp
of Indian culture through one of
most beautiful classical number, th
Peacock Dance, which is said
have originated from Madras. M
Sivadas and his wife, who will
the first in Malaysia to perform th
Peacock Dance in a duet, w
husband-and-wife team, who h
been performing since 1954, d
two folk dances and a Bharata
yam (classical dance) on TV.

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Indian High Commissioner Mr. S.J.S. Chhatwal presenting a sheaf of peacock feathers specially flown in from India, to the Malaysian dancing couple Sivadas and Vatsala.

DEEPAVALI QUEENS

Both Malaysia and Singapore also staged Deepavali Queen contests. Chandra Thangasamy, 20, a clerk, was crowned Miss Deepavali Queen 1978 at the Kuala Lumpur City Hall on Deepavali eve. First runner-up was typist Clotilda Fernandez, 23, and third place went to 20-year-old production operator Miss Latha Sornam. Mrs. S.J.S. Chhatwal, wife of the Indian High Commissioner to Malaysia, gave away the trophies and prizes to the winners. After the crowning ceremony, Miss Chandra; who was taking part in her second beauty contest ("I was not so lucky in the first one") said: "I was so nervous during the parade and when I heard my name being called, I walked out in a daze. It was all so sudden." The Deepavali Night also featured singers from Madras and local cultural dancers. Free gifts were presented to the children who attended the function.

In Singapore, Flight stewardess Renu Bassi, 19 was crowned Miss Deepavali at the National Theatre on Nov. 4. She beat 11 other finalists and won a double return ticket to Madras donated by Malaysian Airline System. First runner-up was Mary Rose Gasmier, 23, an insurance agency supervisor, who won a double return ticket to Penang, and third was receptionist Parameswary Subramaniam, 19, who received a television set. The contest was the highlight of Deepavali Nite, organised by the Singapore Film, Arts and Dramatic Society. The Singapore Contest was sponsored by Messrs. Tokunaga Trading Co. Ltd. of Osaka, Japan, makers of the famous "Lady Hamilton" sarees. Mr. H. Tokunaga, Managing Director of the Company, specially came down to Singapore to attend the function.

IFS INCLUDES BAHASA MALAYSIA

Speaking to reporters after the presentation, Mr. Chhatwal said Bahasa Malaysia (national language of Malaysia) has been incorporated into the language curriculum of the Indian Foreign Service. He said a

Malaysia Deepavali Queen 1978 Chandra (centre), flanked by Clotilda (left) first runner-up and Latha (right) in third place.

Singapore Deepavali Queen 1978 Renu (centre), with first runner-up Mary (left) and Parameswary (right) in third place.

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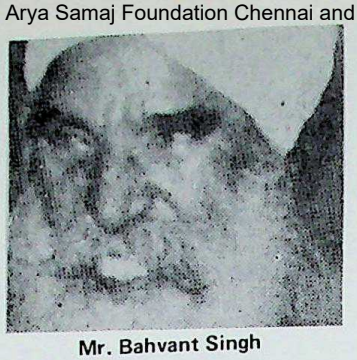
diplomat would be coming to Malaysia soon to study the language. The diplomat would be accredited as the Third Secretary in the High Commission and his sole function would be to study Bahasa Malaysia. Mr. Chhatwal added that by incorporating Bahasa Malaysia into its foreign service language curriculum the national language was recognised as being on par with other world languages. He said that recognition was also in line with his country's policy of fostering closer ties with Malaysia.

PHILANTHROPIST BALWANT SINGH

To end my report in the typical Deepavali spirit of charity, let me refer to the charity record totted up by philanthropist Balwant Singh, 77, a retired assistant official assignee in Penang. His donations to charity



Mr. Bahvant Singh

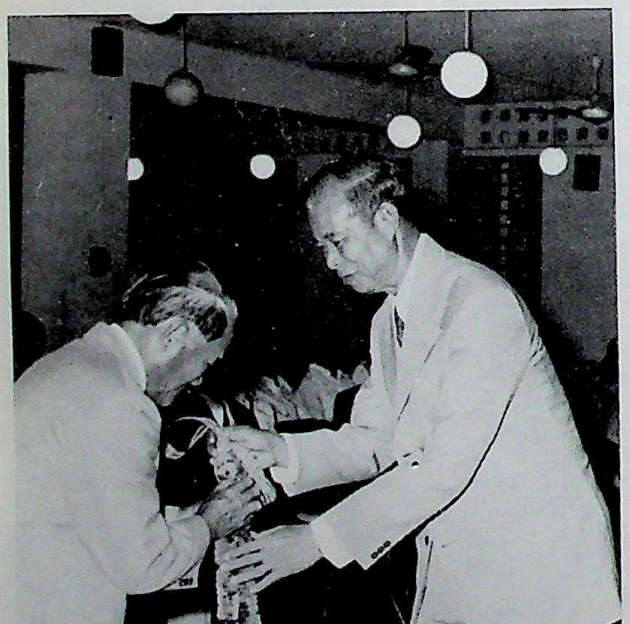
reached the $110,000 mark onNov. 8 when he handed 11 cheques totalling $10,000 to the State Chief Minister Dr. Lim Chong Eu at Bangunan Tuanku Syed Putra for 11 institutions and organisations. The cheques were for University of Malaya ($9,000), Tun Sardon Foundation ($200), Lady Templer Hospital ($200), Mt. Mirian Hospital ($100), Little Sisters of the Poor ($100), Ramakrishna Ashrama Orpanage ($100), St. Nicholas Home for the Visually Handicapped ($100), Federation School for th Deaf ($50), Penang State disaste relief fund ($50), Penang Museum ($50), Penang Methodist Hig School ($50).

Mr. Balwant Singh, a forme student of the Methodist Hig School, said his four children an seven grandchildren were all "stand ing on their own feet" and were no dependent on his financial suppor The latest donation was his 18t annual charitable hand-out. He sai a science scholarship at the Univer sity of Malaya that he started i 1971 has $97,529.79 now (includin the $9,000 donated today an interest earned.) "Giving $110,00 in the last 18 years "is the happies thing to me," he said. There is n doubt that his noble example wi stimulate others similarly to donat to worthy causes.

-G. S. Muthukrishna

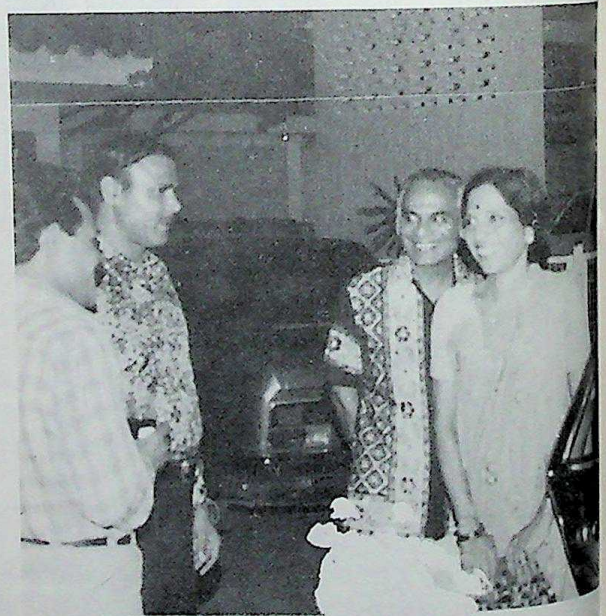
THAILAND

A TOUCH OF CLASS



Dr. O. Ketusingh, President of the Thai Bharat Cultural Lodge is pictured garlanding the Guest of Honour, H.E. Deputy Prime Minister Sunthorn Hongladarome.

TO WELCOME YOU



The Chairman of the Indian Thai Chamber of Commerc Mr. S.S. Mahansariya and the Chairman of the Indian Clu Mr. Mahabir Prasad Gogar were on hand to welcome th Guest of Honour.

Photos: Prem Sara

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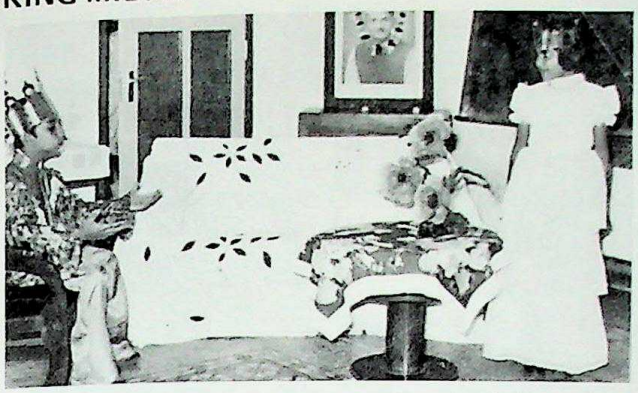
INDONESIA

KING MIDAS



From Nehru Memorial School Bandung, we have a scene from the drama "King Midas" enacted on Indian Children's Day.

WHAT A PRIZE!

Snapped here is Mr. Murli Dodani presenting the lucky guest prize to Mr. Parmanand Balani of M/s. K.A.J. Chotirmalls, Jakarta.

ADDING WEIGHT?

Gandhi Memorial International School celebrated Indian Children's Day recently. It also happened to be the birthday of Principal V. Ram who is seen here with his family cutting his birthday cake. A unique feature of this day is that the senior students of the School took over the management on this day while the teachers came to school as pupils, even dressed in students uniform.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Mr. & Mrs. Hashu Dodani of M/s. Lachman celebrated their silver wedding anniversary at the Flores Room, Hotel Borobudur Inter-Continental. Seen here is the couple cutting their anniversary cake amidst family members.

COMEDY ACT

Little Miss Shalu S. Samtani looked perfectly "bellisima" at her birthday party. Seen in the picture is the famous Indonesian comedian Ateng, entertaining little Shalu and her friends.

INDIAN NIGHT

"Diwali", the Festival of Lights. The Little Men's League had an "Indian Night" on Diwali eve at the Hyatt Arya duta Hotel. Snapped here are from l to r: Mr. Suresh Raghani, Mr. Mirchu Samtani, Mrs. Ram Punjabi, Mrs. Gobind Punjabi and Mr. V. Ram.

Photos: Sangeeta Ram

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MRS. SADIQ ALI IN NAIROBI

Indian newspapers carry more news about Africa than African newspapers about India, Mrs. Shanti Sadiq Ali, wife of the Governor of Bombay and a journalist specialising in African affairs, said in Nairobi recently.

Mrs. Ali is in Nairobi on her way back to India after attending a UN symposium of the "Economic and Cultural Exploitation of Blacks in Africa" in the Lesotho capital of Maseru, recently.

Educated young Indians knew about the burning issues of Africa through newspapers and took interest in what was going on, attending seminars and studies at universities and other organisations, she said in an interview.

In 1977, the prestigious Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis in Delhi held a seminar on "The OAU and the Conflict Situation in Africa", she said. Bombay University held another seminar on current African developments in which around 50 colleges took part, in addition to former Indian diplomats with African experience, and other scholars. The J.L. Nehru University in Delhi also did in-depth studies on African developments and problems, she said.

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry had established a big bureau on Africa, she noted. At the government level, a grant of Shs. 5 million had been made to the liberation movements in Southern Africa and the Indian Foreign Minister Mr. Vajpayee, made his first foreign visit to Africa immediately after his appointment, she said.

"A lot of appreciation has been accorded to India for these initiatives and India's co-operation with Africa in technical and economic matters is a model for Third World countries," she added.

HAKSAR AND OKERO

The Indian High Commissioner to Kenya Mr. A.N.D. Haksar, is seen here presenting a book "Indian Portrait of People" to Kenyan Information Minister Dr. Isaac Omolo Okero in his Nairobi office. Looking on is Mrs. Shanti Sadiq Ali, wife of Governor of Bombay.

RARE GIFT

Outgoing Indian press attache of India Commission in Kenya, Mr. P.N.G. Subramaniam, is seen presenting some books on India to girls of a Kenyan secondary school. Looking on (right) is Mr. Ashok Attri, the new press attache.

Indian experts were working in many independent African States and had opened up new areas. In addition to Indians being sent to the UN Organisations, governments of Kenya, Tanzan

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Ethiopia, Zambia and Nigeria, for instance were recruiting Indians for skilled jobs because Indian experiences were more relevant to Africa than those of experts from technologically more advanced Western countries. It was also cheaper she said to employ Indian expertise.

Asked why not many studies and books had been published by Indian authors, she replied; "This is a luxury of the West."

There had been agreement on the need to dismantle apartheid, but differences persisted on the methods for doing so. There was a broad concensus on the evils inherent in the apartheid system and testimonies were heard from persons who had spent 10 to 12 years on Robben Island with evidence on apartheid conditions prevalent in South Africa.

While in Nairobi Mrs. Sadiq Ali visited some of the health and educational institutions set up by the Ismaili community. She said she was very impressed. While in Bombay recently, H.H. the Aga Khan had stayed with them at State House and had invited her to visit these institutions when next in Kenya. She said the Aga Khan had initiated new projects relating to health and education in India as well.

COURTESY CALL

Kenyan Information Minister, Dr. Isaac Omolo Okero, is seen receiving Mrs. Shanti Sadiq Ali, wife of Governor of Bombay, in his Nairobi office.

She said urban squalor and overcrowding in Bombay was due to unplanned development and the influx of jobseekers from all over India. "We have an open society and everybody is free to draw his conclusions, but we have started some major social welfare projects to counteract these problems. It is like London some decades ago and will improve. On the positive side, we have some very sophisticated industries there as well. This is the price you have to pay for it," she said.

Asked about an earlier project of hers – writing a textbook on the history of Kenya through the liberation movement headed by late President Kenyatta an idea mooted when she visited Kenya about four years ago – she said it had been abandoned for technical reasons.

– Kul Bhushan

UNITED STATES

ASSOCIATION ELECTS OFFICERS

The India Association of Kalamazoo, Michigan elected the following officers to their executive committee Vijay Mehta, president; Bhanumath Nair, vice president; Anil Patel, general secretary; Subash Agarwal, social secretary; Virendra Sood, treasurer; Sudha Byakod, Sobha Goud, Sukanandan Jain, S. Palaniappan, and Muniraj Pillai, committee members.

NEW COMMITTEE

The India Association of South Jersey had elected the following officers to serve in 1979: Mrs. Hanshi Deshbandu, president; Tej P. Suri, executive vice president; K. S. Satija, Rama Athreya, vice presidents; Dayal R. Biswas, treasurer; Sharad Doshi, general secretary; Pramod Kamdar, deputy secretary; Mrs. Farhat Biviji, Ajit S. Shah, joint secretaries; Rasik D. Mehta, Lalaji Deshbandu, ex-officio members.

SITE FOR TEMPLE

The Hindu Worship Society of Houston, Texas recently bought a 1.1 acre site to be used for the construction of a Hindu temple.

Jain Muni laid the foundation stone last year signalling the first phase of construction.

Interested parties can contact the society by writing to H.W.S., 8615 Parvasai, Houston, TX., 77064 or by calling (713) 466-8683 or (713) 460-1379.

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THE ATTRACTIONS OF INDIAN TOURISM

The "Indian Festival of Food & Music" was held at Trou aux Biches Hotel from October 6 to 12. The festival was brought to Mauritius due to the associated care of Air India, Air Mauritius, Mauritius Hotels Group, Govt. of India and the Centaur Hotel of Bombay. The programme comprised also of a presentation of models. It was really an event of rare quality.

Numerous personalities, of whom the Governor General of Mauritius and Mrs. D. Burrenchobay, appreciated the different facets of the Indian Culture.

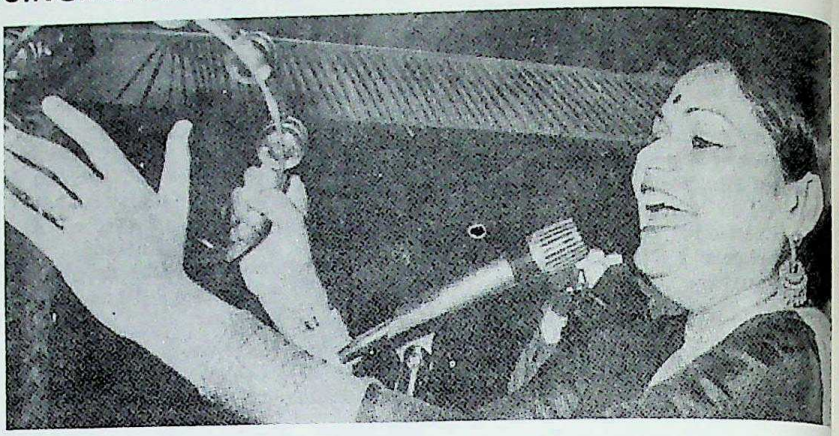
GRACE & CHARM

A young Indian model displays a lovely saree.

At the entrance, the "tika" was imposed; and at the beginning of the show, it was the "Namaskar" – welcoming the public. Immediately after came the wedding of colors with the traditional saree.

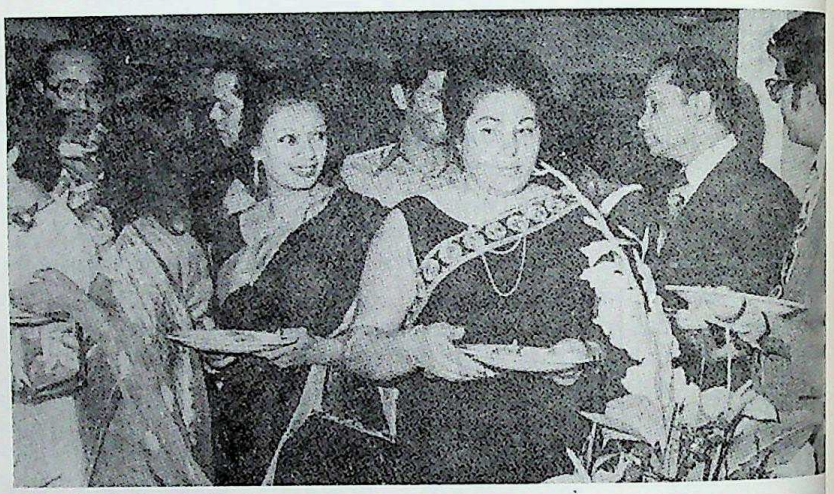
About fifty models created by Jeannie Naoroji and Hilla Divecha and the Cotton Export Promotion Council of India were presented to the public on a choreography of Mrs. Naoroji. To present the

SINGING SENSATION



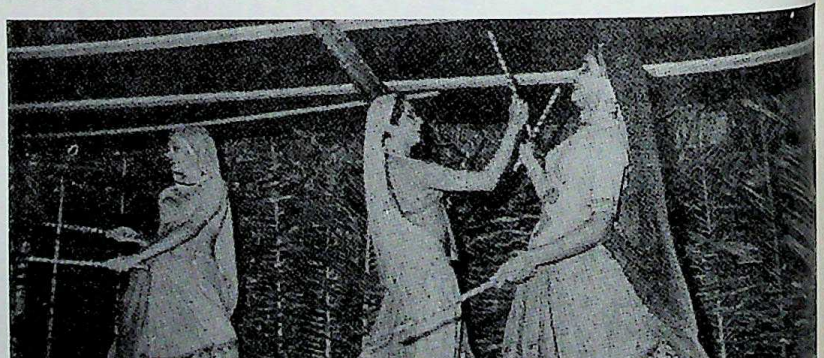
Usha Uthup: I believe in music; I believe in love.

PET POOJA



Time for Indian delicacies.

INDIAN NIGHT FEVER



Charming young girls perform the 'garba', much to the delight of the audience.

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models were: Rosita, Feroza, Marianne, Raina and Deepak from India and Marie, Paul and Indira from Mauritius.

The Red and Black Fantasy was greatly appreciated as also the folkloric dances of a northern Indian village. Background music "Missing you" from Anand Shankar and an "Overture" of Mozart and other indo-european themes were well intergrated.

Usha Uthup, a presence which literally occupied all the places of the green hall built for the occasion. Usha likes to dialogue with the public, to make the public participate in the songs. Usha started her round with "I believe in music, I believe in love". In one hour Usha captured the hearts of thousands of Mauritians with her valuable songs.

In conclusion, the Indian Festival was a real success which gave a chance to Mauritians to witness the triple touristic attractions of India (musical, vestimentary and culinary)

— Nasseem Ackbarally

UNITED KINGDOM

EARTHQUAKE

Janis and Raj Darbari gave a dance recital at the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan.

Photo: Madan Arora

ART EXHIBITION

Indian Art Exhibition at India High Commission was inaugurated by the High Commissioner for India H.E. Sri N.G. Goray seen at microphone. Srimati Mohanti in the centre was the Master of Ceremony and introduced the artist to the invited guests from press and art world in London. On left is the artist Miss. Usha S. Phenany whose works are in private hands and many galleries.

DR. CHUNDER HONOURED

Dr. P.C. Chunder Indian Minister of Education was in London for a few days and had a very busy schedule. He is pictured 4th from right with representatives of the British Council, at their headquarters in London. Sri N. G. Goray, High Commissioner for India is seen 5th from left. The Council hosted a dinner in Mr. Chunder's honour.

DISCUSSING EDUCATION

Indian Press and educationists met the Minister of Education, Dr. P.C. Chunder, who led an eighteen member delegation to Unesco in Paris. Here Dr. Chunder is seen with some educationists from Cambridge.

Photos: C. Govind

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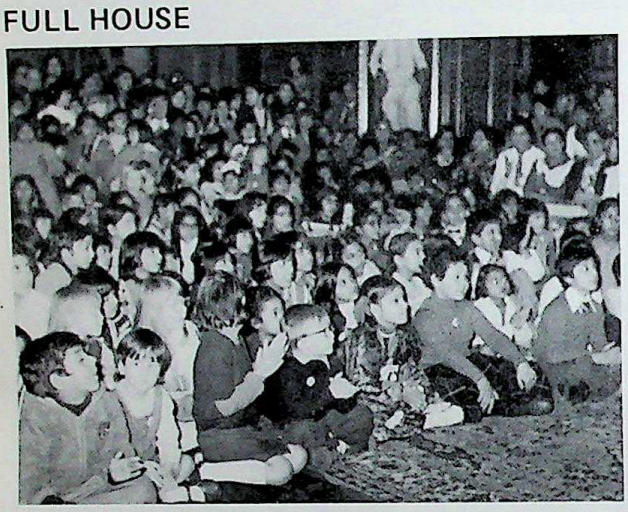
WELCOME ADDRESS

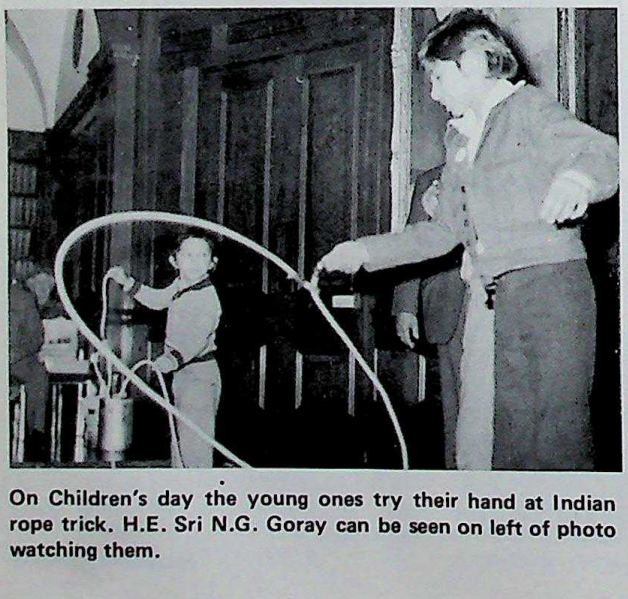
India's High Commissioner H.E. Sri N.G. Goray seen welcoming the children at India House on Children's Day.

FULL HOUSE



Excited children at India House on Children's Day party which is also Chacha Nehru's birthday. Children from many nations gathered at Indian High Commission in London to celebrate Children's day with lots of eats, magic, dances and music for all the kids gathered here.

IN ACTION



On Children's day the young ones try their hand at Indian rope trick. H.E. Sri N.G. Goray can be seen on left of photo watching them.

NANHE FARISHTE

The dancing dolls pictured with Mr. Silverman, Member of Parliament who is Chairman of India League after a successful performance.

REPEAT PERFORMANCE

At the feet of Nehru's portrait children are seen performing dances in colourful costumes, much to the delight of the audience.

GROOMING EARLY

One of the tiny tots at Children's day party giving a vocal recital. On Harp is Miss Beena and Smt. Tripiti Das is seen behind the budding singer who was the moving spirit behind the cultural activities.

Photos: C. Go

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INDIAN FIRM TO BUILD HOTEL IN RIYADH

B. G. Shirke & Co., a prominent Indian construction firm with a good record of exports, has achieved a major breakthrough in the Saudi Arabia by signing a contract with a prominent industrialist of that country, Sheikh Fahad Saja. The contract pertains to the supply of engineering services, material and manpower for the two building projects together valued at Rs. 12 crores.

The projects are made up of a four-star hotel and a ten-storyed building with a helipad.

The Shirkes are deploy 500 people for the two Riyadh projects. The employment potential in the next two years will be 3,000, Mr. B.G. Shirke, chairman of the company told pressmen.

The company has handled jobs worth over 60 crores in the Gulf region so far but the opening in Saudi Arabia should substantially add to the prospects, Mr. Shirke said.

GRAND MUSHAIRA

His Excellency Mr. Abdul Kader Hafizka, Ambassador of India in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, inaugurated a grand Mushaira last month held in Jeddah under the auspices of the Embassy of India Social Club in which both Indian and Pakistani poets participated. Four Indian renowned poets, viz. Mr. Moin Ahsan 'Jazbi', Mr. Kaleem Ajiz, Mr. Bekal 'Utsahi' and Mr. 'Shamin' Japuri came from India to participate in the Mushaira, which was presided over by Maulana Imdad Sabri, Deputy Mayor of Delhi. Other dignitaries present in the Mushaira were Mr. Fazlur Rahman, Minister of State for Energy of the Government of India; Mr. A.F.G. Osmani, Minister of Irrigation and Power, Government of Assam; Mr. Hamid Ali Shamnad, M.P. and Sayed Viqaruddin, Chief Editor, Urdu Daily, Rahnuma-e-Deccan, Hyderabad, and His Excellency General (Retd) Fazl Muqueem, Ambassador of Pakistan in Jeddah. The Mushaira was held in a packed hall of mixed complexion from the sub-continent and included many Saudi nationals.

— Bharatkumar Shah

SHAM-E-MEHFIL

Renowned poets render popular ghazals, etc. much to the delight of the audience.

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ETHIOPIA

INDIA–ETHIOPIA TIES REAFFIRMED

The traditional ties of friendship and cooperation between India and Ethiopia were reaffirmed during the visit of India's Minister of State for External Affairs H.E. Mr. Samarendra Kundu to Addis Ababa, leading a three-member good-will dekgation to participate in the 4th Ethiopian Revolution Day Celebration at the invitation of the Ethiopian Government. Mr. Kundu was received on arrival by the Ethiopian Minister of Finance H.E. Mr. Teferra Wolde Semait. In a statement on arrival, Mr. Kundu conveyed the greetings and good wishes of the Government and people of India to the Government and people of Ethiopia.

Mr. Kundu later called on the Foreign Minister of Ethiopia H.E. Col. Dr. Feleke Gedle-Ghiorgis and held detailed discussions on a wide range of bilateral and international issues. During the meeting the Foreign Minister of Ethiopia said "we regard India as our special friend" and added "our relationship is of long duration" and expressed his Government's appreciation of the support and assistance extended to Ethiopia by India bilaterally and in the international fora. Mr. Kundu assured the Ethiopian Foreign Minister of all possible assistance in Ethiopia's development and extended an invitation to Col. Dr. Feleke Gedle Ghiorgis to visit India, which was accepted with pleasure. Mr. Kundu also met the President of the Addis Ababa University Dr. Duri Mohammad and discussed the growing relations between that University and Indian academic institutions.

During the visit Mr. Kundu also had an opportunity to meet H.E. Dr. Peter Onu, Assistant Secretary-General of the OAU for Political and Decolonisation Affairs, Mr. Robert Mugabe, Co-leader of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, Mr. Alfred Nzo, Secretary-General of the African National Congress of South Africa. Mr. Kundu as[illegible] the leaders of the South Af[illegible] Liberation Movements of In[illegible] continued moral and ma[illegible] support in their struggle.

WELCOME

India's Minister of State for External Affairs Shri Samarendra Kundu being welcomed on arrival to Addis Ababa by the Ethiopian Minister of Finance H. Mr. Teferra Wolde Semait.

DETAILED DISCUSSION

Shri Samarendra Kundu holding talks with the Ethiopian Minister of Foreign Af[illegible] H.E. Col. Dr. Feleke Gedle Ghiorgis.

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FAREWELL

Shri Samarendra Kundu is seen off by Ambassador of India Shri Vinay Verma.

RECEPTION

In honour of Shri Samarendra Kundu the Indian Association of Addis Ababa gave a reception which was very well attended by most of the Indian community.

Photos: Pravin Desai

IN TRANSIT

Mr. Ashok Mitra, Minister of Finance — Government of West Bengal was met and facilitated at Addis Ababa by Air India and Indian Embassy during his transit to Kilimanjaro, Tanzania. Picture shows from left: H.E. Mr. V. Verma, Indian Ambassador to Ethiopia, Mr. Ashok Mitra, Mr. P.V. Bhagwat, Air India Manager for Ethiopia and Sudan, Mr. Keval Krishna Indian Embassy and Mr. N. J. Dalal Air India Airport Manager Addis Ababa.

BOMBAY'S LITTLE PUNJAB

Winter has arrived on Bombay's Bhagat Singh (Frere) Road. For the Sher-e-Punjab and Khalsa and other Punjabi restaurants have started selling *sarson da saag* and *makki di roti*, the winter food of the farms of Punjab.

And every afternoon you see the sturdy Punjabis, from taxi-drivers to dock and office employees, eating their *saag* and *roti* as they must have done in their native villages. It is a ritual that continues to be practised, year after year, no matter how mild Bombay's winter may be.

The corner of the old Frere Road, opposite the General Post Office, is Bombay's little Punjab. Here the restaurants sell the most authentic Punjabi food in town, outside of Koliwada that is. Tandoori chicken and fish and *rogan josh* and *nargisi kofta* and *saagwalla mutton* and a host of other dishes the aroma of which fills the air and reminds the visitor of Amritsar and Ludhiana and Hall Bazar.

There are other little aspects to remind the visitor of Punjab. The colourful turbans dyed and starched and stretched above the road for drying. And tall Sikhs discussing hockey in those earthy tones that the Punjabi language provides for.

Koliwada, of course, is the big centre of the Sikhs, justly famous for its food all over the city. Here, in the nights, cars drive up from various cocktail parties and entertainment programmes for the Koliwada fish prepared in tiny restaurants smelling of coal tandoors.

Most of the eating is done in front of these restaurants, the food spread out on the bonnet of the cars, the moonlight above, the radios blaring forth music most probably composed by one of Bombay's many Punjabi film musicians. And, at that time, one feels one is transported back to the national highway that runs across Punjab, from Delhi to Pathankot, and eating in a roadside *dhaba* amidst a cluster of flies.

But most of all one is reminded of Punjab when winter comes on Frere Road and the restaurants serve *sarson da saag* and *makki di roti*.

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HONG KONG

HARI HARILELA HONOURED

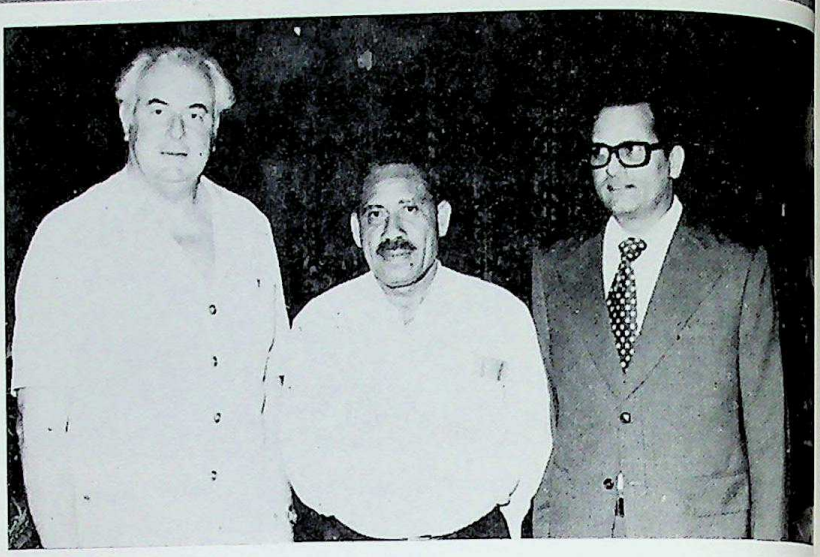
Mr. Hari N. Harilela, J.P. was recently honoured with the title of the Officer, Order of the British Empire conferred on him by Her Majesty the Queen. This is an honour which he richly deserves as Mr. Hari always espouses charitable causes with his large and generous heart, giving liberally to any worthy cause.

Mr. Hari N. Harilela, O.B.E., J.P.

Affectionately called Hari by all those who know him, with his affable manners, and pleasant disposition, has won the hearts of all, and as the leader of the Indian community in Hongkong he is loved and respected not only by the Indian community but also by all the other Communities of Hong Kong. Hari presides over a vast business empire, covering a number of countries. Being the Chairman of the Harilela Group, he controls and manages the affairs of a number of companies engaged in finance, property development and hotel industry, tourist, metal and other industries.

For decades Hari has been in the forefront of social and public work. He has been the architect of the Council of Hongkong Indian Associations. He is also President of the Council. Hari is the Honorary Permanent President of the Indian Chamber of Commerce Hongkong which he had earlier served with distinction as Chairman. He has had been the Chairman of other Indian organisations, such as the India Association, the India Club and the Nav Bharat Club; now Patron of the Indian Association and the Nav Bharat Club.

The Indian Community is and fully represented in him proud of the distinction bestow on him.



Mr. K.L. Samant, Manager — Bank of India visited Papua New Guinea recently prospect the Capital, Port Moresby. During his brief stay Mr. Samant called upon Governor General, Minister of Finance, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Tra Governor of Bank of Papua New Guinea and several other government officials well as leading business men, industrialists and commercial bankers. Mr. Saman pictured at right with from left: Mr. Gough Whitlam, Ex. Prime Minister of Austra and Sir Tore Lokoloko, G.L.M.G., Governor General — Papua New Guinea.

ENGAGEMENT

Mr. & Mrs. H.P. Gulrajani of Gulraj Group of Companies recently held a cock party at Connaught Rooms of Mandarin Hotel to celebrate the engagement of daughter Chandra with Shankar T. Shamdasani of M/s. Overseas Impex Sho Osaka. Seen at the party are from left: Mrs. Hiro T. Shamdasani, Mr. Hiro Shamdasani, Miss. Chandra H. Gulrajani, Mr. Shankar Shamdasani, Mrs. Hiranan Gulrajani and Mr. Gulrajani.

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JEEVAN SAATHI

Sugnu and Paroo Jethwani celebrated their Silver wedding anniversary by hosting a grand cocktail at the Furama Hotel which was attended by several overseas guests. Popular film stars Dilip Kumar, Dimple Khanna, Vijayendra and new comer Romi Nihal flew from Bombay especially for the occasion to greet Sugnu and Paroo. The happy couple is seen renewing their marriage vows after several years of marital bliss.

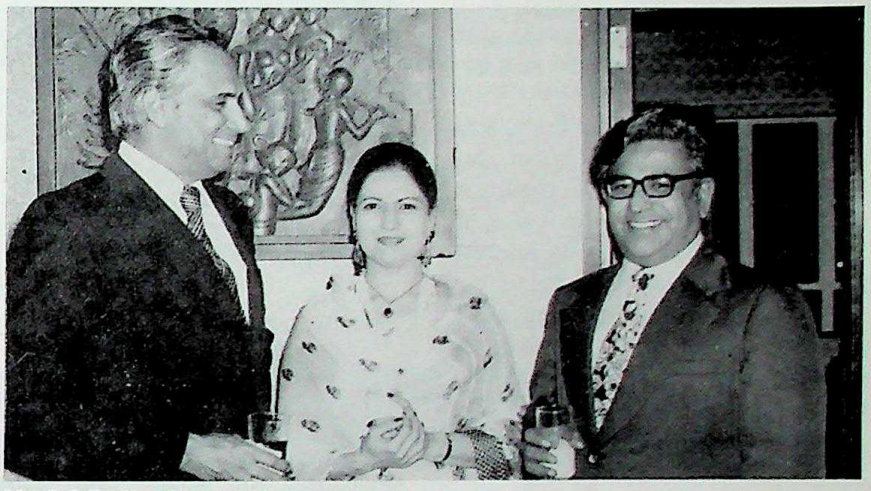
NEW APPOINTMENT

Mr. P.Y. Welinkar has been appointed Air India's Airport Manager Hong Kong. He takes over from Mr. A. Krishnan who has been transferred to Japan as Assistant Manager Osaka. Mr. Welinkar has been with Air India for over twenty years, during which period he has held a variety of posts in different departments at Santa Cruz Airport. Prior to his present appointment, Mr. Welinkar was Assistant Manager Load Control.

CHEERS!

Mr. H.N. Harilela, O.B.E., J.P., toasts the joyous couple who are pictured at left with their mother (seated), Mrs. Rekha, Mr. Khushal Jethwani, Mrs. Anita, Mr. Sirichand Jethwani, Mr. G.N. Shah and Mr. V. Patel.

COCKTAIL HOUR



Mr. P.C.D. Nambiar, Chairman — State Bank of India was recently in Hong Kong and a cocktail reception was held in his honour by the Chairman of the Indian Chamber of Commerce — Mr. K. Sital. Seen at cocktails are from left: Mr. P.C.D. Nambiar, Mrs. Lita Sital and Mr. K. Sital.

PIYO AUR JIYO

Enjoying cocktails at a recent party are : Mr. Arjan Melwani (left) and Mrs. Minoo Melwani (right) with their overseas guests.

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US$ 42,000 FROM GANDHI WILL

Some US$ 42,000 is to be distributed to more than 40 charitable, religious, educational and medical institutions in terms of the will of the nephew of Mahatma Gandhi.

Mr. A.A. Gandhi, a prominent Tongaat businessman, who died in November 1955, bequeathed half his estate for distribution to charity.

In terms of the relevant clause in his will payment was to be made 20 years after his death – i.e. in 1975. But there has been a delay as a result of a dispute between the trustees which has resulted in a Supreme Court case.

In November 1975 there was about R250,000 available for distribution to charity. This figure is now thought to be in the region of R300,000, which includes interest income for the last three years.

The trustees have prepred a list of institutions which will benefit from donations in terms of Mr. Gandhi's will.

RADHA – KRISHNA

Little Jayshree (6) and Krishna Pillai (8) portray Krishna and Radha at a fancy dress parade held at Isipingo Rail recently.

FROM HERE TO ETERNITY

Kumari Manormani studied Bharata Natyam at the Vadhini Natyaalya in Madras graduated in 1973. Her school in Durban is known as the Kumari Manorma Dancing Academy and she has 100 pupils. Here she is seen performing a Pada depicting the Radha Krishna theme.

GRAND OLD LADY DIES IN SLEEP

Mrs. Panjammah Kulappa Govender, the Grand Old Lady of Esperanza, is dead.

It is believed she was 110 y old, which, if correct, would made her the oldest Indian in So Africa.

It is claimed that she cam this country on one of the voyages of the Truro, the sa ship that brought the first Ind to South Africa 118 years ago.

She was living with her daugh family on the sugar estate w she had spent her entire life s coming to Natal with her husba

Death came to her in a pea manner. She had had her su and after talking to her fa members was lying down and in her bed. She had not been ill.

The funeral took place from son's home in Sezela at 3 p Sunday. A very large crowd att ed, including all her fa members, from her children t great grandchildren.

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LOVE SUBLIME

Kantharuby Govender studied at the Bharata Natyam Kallayam in Madras and now runs the Natyam Kalalayam School of Dancing in Pietermaritzburg. She recently performed the Varnam, a love dance that brings out the many shades of human emotions that are affected in a love situation.

GALA QUEEN

The Fiona Heights Sporting Club for womens in Chatsworth, celebrated their first anniversary by organising a sports gala at the Willow Grove ground in Mobeni Heights. The highlight of the activities was the choosing of the gala queen which was won by Mrs. Nirmalla Naidoo, who is seen flanked by the runners up Mrs. G. Sami (left) and Mrs. Vasantha Moodley.

RAFI ARRIVES

Mohammed Rafi, the famous Indian singer banned by the Government of India from touring South Africa five years ago, arrived with his troupe at Louis Botha airport in Durban.

During his two-and-a half week tour, Rafi gave four shows in Durban, all at the Shah Jehan cinema before doing a tour of Cape Town and Johannesburg.

There were 14 members with the troupe, two of them classical Indian dancers, Jayshree T and Meena T.

Rafi has been called the "Sinatra of the East" and has performed before the Queen.

The proceeds of all his performances went to charity.

AUSTRALIA

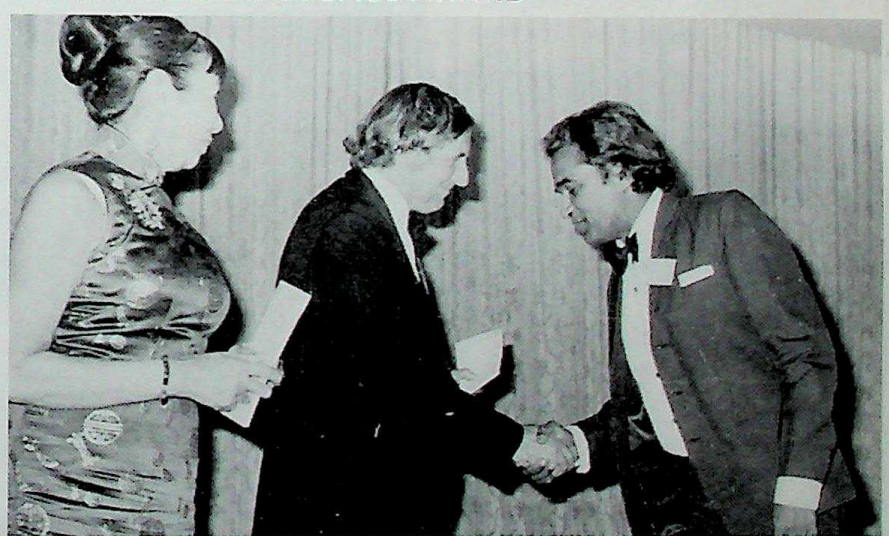
NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR MR. PATHI

Mr. S. Lakshmi Pathi, an Indian librarian living in Adelaide, has recently won national recognition in Australia.

Munno Para Public Library of which Mr. Pathi is chief librarian has been given the Australian Library Promotion Council's 1978 Public Relations Award in the printed publication section.

The publication that brought credit to the Munno Para library is the Mobile Library Project Report Mr. Pathi prepared and submitted to the Munno Para District Council in 1977. The Council adopted the report and launched a mobile library for its residents far removed

INDIAN LIBRARIAN BAGS AWARD



S. Lakshmi Pathi receiving Australian Library Promotion Council's 1978 Public Relations Award from Prof. Geoffrey Blainey, chairman, Australia Council, at a function in Melbourne.

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from its main library in March this year. (Since then a few other municipal councils in south Australia have commissioned mobile library units more or less on the same concept).

Commenting on Mr. Pathi's report the Australian Library Promotion Council's judges panel said, "the structure, layout, writing and illustration of this report are a model of clear and straight-forward exposition of requirements, possibilities, alternatives and recommendations. . . . " Another entry from Munno Para on its overall PR campaign in 1977-78 was commented upon by the judg of "high standard."

Mr. Pathi is vice-president o Municipal Librarians Associa of SA. He is also acting presider the Indian-Australian Associa of SA.

JAPAN

GALA CELEBRATIONS

As in the previous years, the Indian community in Tokyo and Yokohama assembled to celebrate Diwali and New Year on Saturday the 4th November, 1978. Convened under the chairmanship of Mr. A.M. Nair the occasion brought under the roof of Zojoji Hall about five hundred Indians and some foreign guests. Gaily dressed Indian boys and girls added colour to the occasion.

A series of programmes were arranged with the help of local talents. A short skit in English by boys and girls, a sitar performance by a Nepali lady supported by Japanese on the drums were the highlights of the evening.

These were followed by a raffle draw by Mrs. Singh and the lucky participants carried home wonderful prizes. In his address, Ambassador Singh praised the efforts of the local Indian community for organizing such functions. His humorous speech was a fitting finale to the gaiety of Diwali.

TICKING PILLOW

Fifty-three electronic watches concealed inside an old pillow were among the items seized by the Bombay customs officials during a search of the ship, M.V. Dwaraka.

Officers and men of the rummaging division boarded the vessel when it returned from Persian Gulf and became suspicious when they found that some of the packages did not bear any names or marks.

Out of the three packages seized, two were found to contain textiles, whilst the third one was stuffed with an old pillow filled with electronic watches. The total value of the contraband is about Rs. 75,000.

GREETINGS

Indian Community Activities, Tokyo, organized an occasion to celebrate "Diwa the Zojoji Temple. In the photo, A.M. Nair (left), president of the sponsorin ganization, is receiving Indian Ambassador and Mrs. Avtar Singh.

NAMASKAR

Ambassador Avtar Singh is seen addressing the large audience which took part festival.

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Gleanings from Indian press

INDIAN BANK ENTERS EURODOLLAR MARKET

The Bank of Baroda has made its debut in the Eurodollar market with the issue of floating certificates of deposits maturing in 1981. There are bearer and transferable certificates, valued $20 million.

This is the first time that an Indian bank has issued such certificates in the Eurodollar market.

ROCK PAINTINGS FOUND

Rock paintings estimated to be more than 3,000 years old were found last month in the Banipat hills 25 km (15 miles) from Raigarh, Orissa.

A spokesman for the Raigarh Archaeological Committee said the paintings depicted geometric designs and animals.

PILGRIMS POISONED BY 'PRASADUM'

About 600 pilgrims were admitted to hospitals in Vijaywada, Gannavaram and Guntur with symptoms of food poisoning after eating 'pul hora' prasadam distributed at the fair of Tummy Joseph at Nipedacutapalli village, according to police.

Barring ten persons, others admitted to the hospitals were reported to be out of danger.

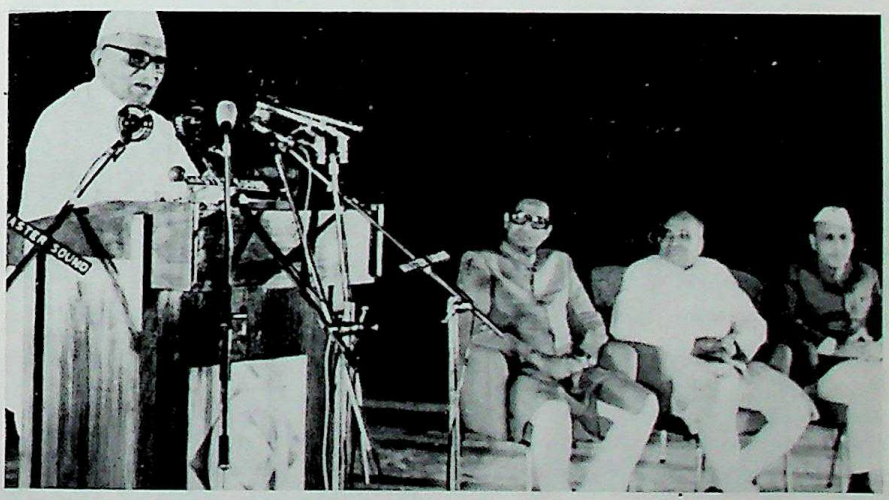
NATIONAL SMALL INDUSTRIES FAIR, 1978: A LANDMARK

A month long National Small Industries Fair started in New Delhi on November 17. The Fair highlights the achievements of the small-scale sector. Contributing 17 per cent to the country's export trade, 40% of the total industrial production, and 30% of employment, small-scale industries occupy a prominent place in the economy. These now turn out sophisticated items like microprocessor based data systems and digital instruments besides a wide range of consumer electronics like TV sets, tape recorders and calculators. The sector also plays a dominant role in the manufacture of plastic and rubber goods, sheet metal goods, soaps, detergents, leather goods, bicycle and cycle parts and ready-made garments.

Inaugurating the Fair at the Pragati Maidan complex, Prime Minister Morarji Desai said that small industries were more employment-oriented and less capital-intensive and produce more competitive goods than big industries in certain fields. For their setting up and technology, however, the development of such basic heavy industries as steel and electricity was essential. He regretted that the role of small sector was not fully recognised by the previous regimes. "Under the glare of western affluence," he said, "we had forgotten the fact that India was one of the richest nations in the world in olden days due to its small and cottage industries."

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Mohan Dharia, the Indian Commerce Minister, said that under the new industrial policy, formulated 11 months ago, 807 items had been reserved for exclusive production

INAUGURAL SPEECH



Prime Minister Morarji Desai inaugurating the Fair. Mr. Mohan Dharia, Indian Commerce Minister, is seen on extreme right.

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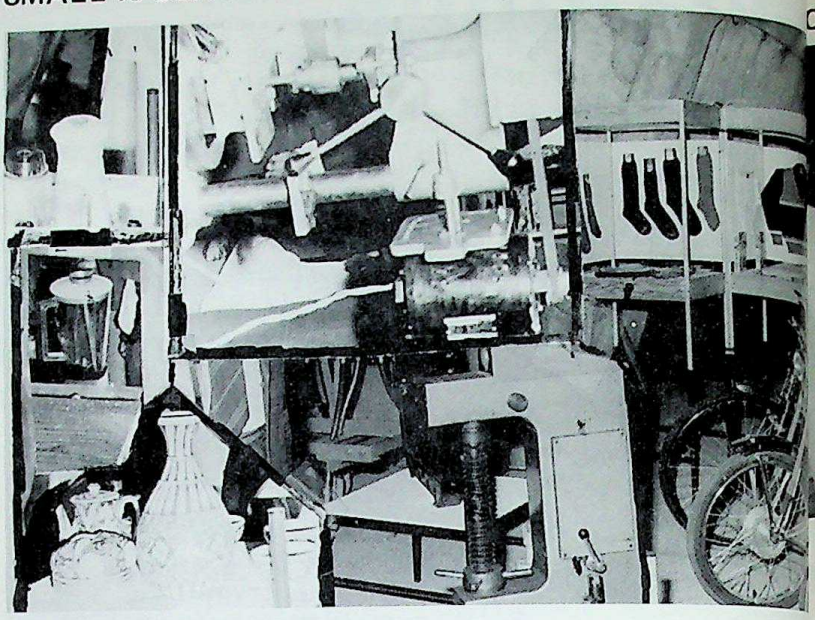
by small industrial sector.

The Fair reflects the new industrial policy in action in a wide range of goods, including such prize items as artware of metal, ivory, wood, clay, stone, papier mache and ceramics of exquisite workmanship, besides rich brocades and fabulous carpets. The rural and household sector covers a diverse variety of industries comprising khadi, handlooms, handicrafts, sericulture and coir. There is an exclusive display by the Export Promotion Council of a number of goods including gems, and jewellery and sport goods.

Spread on the sprawling Pragati Maidan, the Fair is an attractive shopping window. Foreign dignitaries and delegations from the U.S.A., U.K., the European Economic Community, Singapore, Sudan, Fiji, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Nepal, Nigeria, Kenya, etc., have visited it. Organised by the Trade Fair Authority at its permanent complex, the prestigious National Small Industries Fair will be as good an outstanding success as was the exclusively Indian National Exhibition held earlier in Moscow in September. The Authority is already occupied with India's largest ever international exhibition, India International Trade Fair, slated for Nov. 10 – Dec. 9, 1979.

– Somnath Dhar



A collage representing the wide range of small-scale industries products, ranging bicycles, garments, artware to sophisticated consumer electronics, plastic and goods.

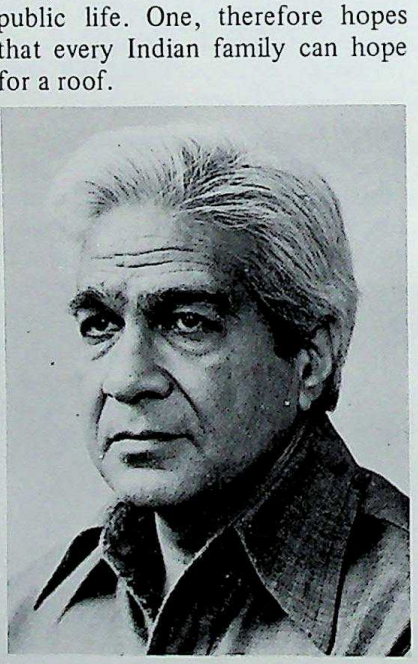
JANATA GOVERNMENT SET TO SOLVE GIGANTIC HOUSING PROBLEM

After talking to Mr. Sikander Bakht, one is convinced that India could have solved its housing problem long ago if we had people like him at the helm of affairs. He is full of ideas, optimism and confidence

The smart, well dressed articulate Minister told this correspondent in an exclusive interview that the Janata Government was determined to solve the housing problem of the masses.

To this end, ambitious and practical plans had been drawn to be implemented in a phased manner.

Mr. Bakht, a champion of communal harmony and a keen sportsman, has had rich experience in public life. One, therefore hopes that every Indian family can hope for a roof.



Mr. Sikander Bakht, Union Minister for Works & Housing, who is determined to solve India's housing problem.

"We can make houses grow like trees," the Minister said with great enthusiasm and confidence. One saw a look of great expectations on his face, which reassured me that every effort will be made to achiev objectives.

The strategy Mr. Bakht evolved is two fold. Firstly, to smaller plinth area (Small ho better than no house) and sec to involve and invite private c Mr. Bakht said that constru generates more employment hence it would be good fo whole economy as well.

"I have also succeeded in vincing the Planning Comm that we should have higher a tion for housing", Mr. Bakht The outlay in 1976-77 was R crore which had been raised t 135 crore in 1977-78.

Group housing and organis al housing, such as Life Insu Corporation and Posts and graph Department, are some ways by which Mr. Bakht hop make a dent into big shorta living units.

Use of cheaper and readily able material will also mean houses. The Housing and Development Corporation (H CO) and the Delhi Develop Authority and the States hav been asked to step up their grammes.

– Anil M

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COURTESY CALL

The British Parliamentary delegation led by Rt. Hon. Earl of Listowel, visited India recently. The members called on Prime Minister Morarji Desai in New Delhi.

'BRAIN DRAIN TAX' SUGGESTED BY JUDGE

Justice P.N. Bhagwati of the Supreme Court has suggested imposition of a tax on educated Indians migrating to foreign countries.

"The brain drain tax" was necessary for a developing country like India, which required educated personnel for its development, Justice Bhagwati said.

A heavy dose of tax might prevent educated people from settling abroad, he added.

Bhagwati was speaking in Ahmedabad at a two-day symposium on the Choksi Committee report on Direct Taxes organized by Local Chartered Accountants Association.

The Supreme Court judge said that these maladies had been effectively dealt with by the Choksi Committee, which had suggested continuous fiscal research and an effective organisation to implement it.

Praising the recommendations of the committee, he wondered whether the government would accept it in the changing socio-economic conditions.

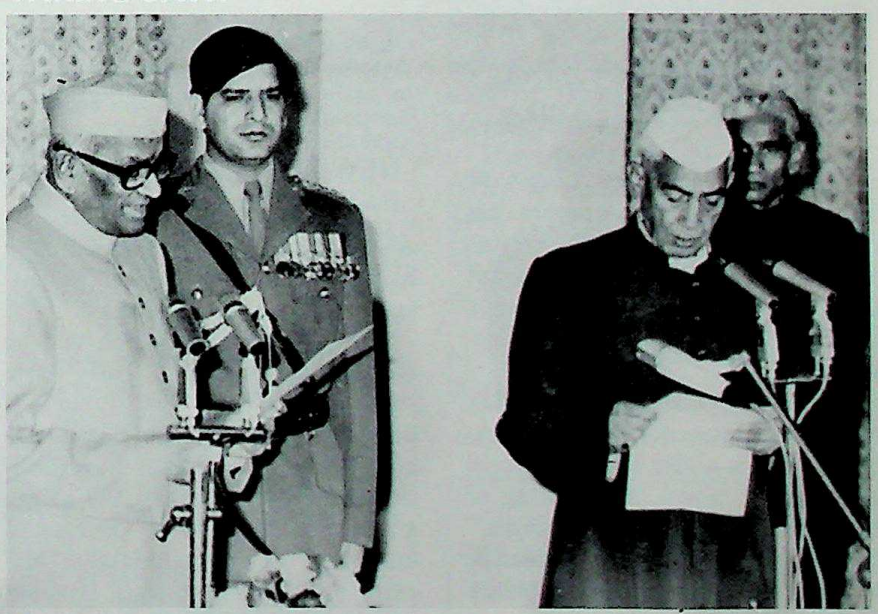
SCHEME TO SAVE VEDAS

A scheme to preserve recitations of the Vedas has been instituted by the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare. The ministry has selected three Vedapathins to train two students each.

MINISTERS OF LABOUR

Mr. Yousuf Abdul Razack Mohamed, Minister of Labour and Industrial Relations of Mauritius with Mr. Ravindra Verma, India's Minister of Labour on arrival at Delhi airport recently.

TAKING OATH



India's President N. Sanjiva Reddy administering oath of office to Mr. Charan Singh as Deputy Prime Minister holding the Finance portfolio.

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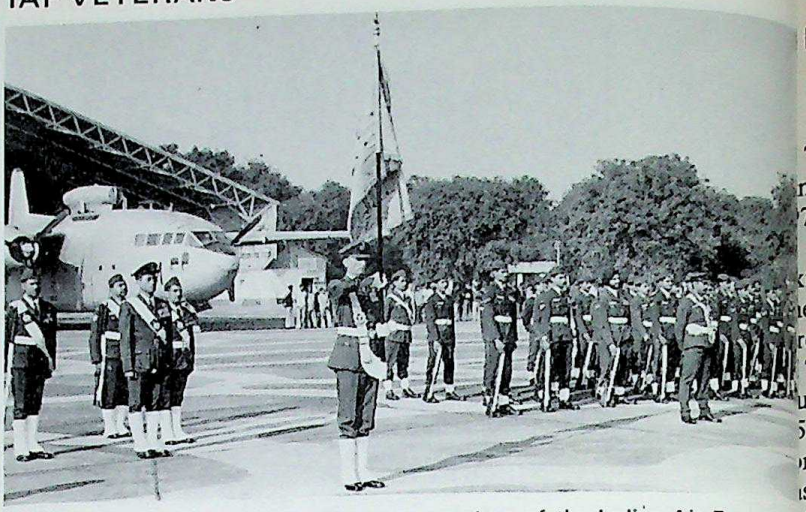
The Vedapathin will be paid Rs. 500 ($63) per month and his student will receive Rs. 100 ($13) per month. The students were examined at the Vedic convention held Jan. 17 through 19 in Gauhati, organized annually by the ministry, an official release said.

The aim of the convention is to preserve the unique system of oral recitation of the vedic samhitas with their different combinations and permutations.

SCHUBERT STAMP

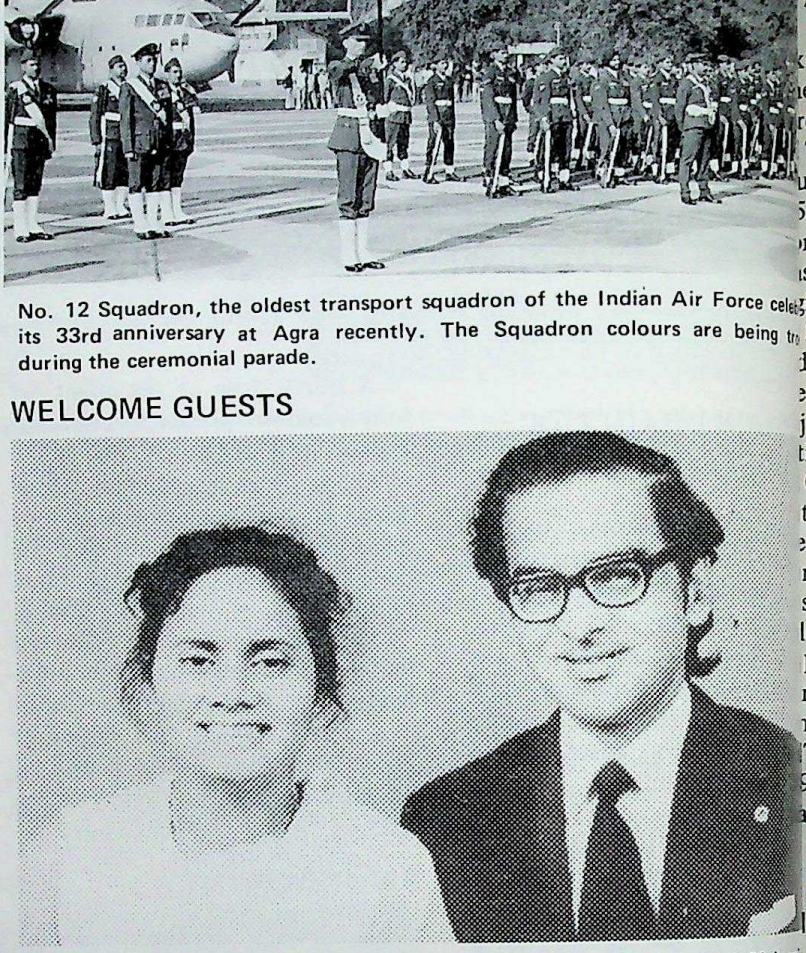
Facsimile of the special multicolour stamp issued recently in India in honour of Franz Peter Schubert, one of Europe's greatest composers of Western classical music, on the occasion of his 150th death anniversary.

IAF VETERANS



No. 12 Squadron, the oldest transport squadron of the Indian Air Force cele its 33rd anniversary at Agra recently. The Squadron colours are being tr during the ceremonial parade.

WELCOME GUESTS



Senator Bissoondath Ojah-Maharaj of Trinidad and Mrs. Dulcie Ojah-Maharaj recently on a three-week cultural visit to India at the invitation of the Indian Co for Cultural Relations.

INDIA REQUESTS NEPAL TO KEEP 'COKE' AWAY

Determined to keep Coca-Cola out, the Indian Government has requested neighboring Nepal to ensure that the beverage does not find its way into India after a bottling plant opens in the Himalayan kingdom.

Though Coca-Cola and other aerated beverages are eligible for export to India under the Indo-Nepal trade treaty under the heading of "all other non-alcoholic beverages," the request has been made "bearing in mind the Government's policy on Coca-Cola."

The Nepalese response to the request is awaited.

NEW BICYCLE DESIGNED

The National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, has developed a new bicycle which has several advantages over the standard model.

The new bicycle, which will be cheaper, is designed to carry more than one person. The frame has been reduced to make it stronger and lighter, rim brakes have been replaced by hub brakes, and safety accessories have been integrated into the design eliminating the extra cost. The traditional crossbar has been lowered so that people wearing the Indian dress can ride conveniently.

RAJASTHANI PUJARI LEARN MANTRAS A SCHOOL

The Rajasthan governmen decided to send the pujaris o administered temples to the Sanskrit colleges for traini temple rituals and the recita mantras.

The pujaris, who are mostl erate, have inherited the pries from their ancestors.

The Devasthan (temple) D ment of the Rajasthan gover administers as many as 494 te and dharamshalas.

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INLAKS FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The Inlaks Foundation has nounced a list of 13 scholars for 79 from which ten will be select- for studies at the universities of kford, Cambridge and London. e scholarships are for two to ree years.

The identity of the foundation's under, who has already given 50 million dollars to the founda- n, is not known. The fundation s started in June, 1976, and is gistered in Liechtenstein.

Its purpose is to help young dians and Nigerians by providing em scholarships. The second jective is to assist charitable tivities in these two countries.

Count Nicolo Sella di Monteluce, trustee of the foundation, told essmen that already 17 scholars re studying in England. There s a proposal to provide two lowships in American universities. He said that in India the scholars re selected by the selection nmittee of the Rhodes Trust.

The foundation, he said, spent 90,000 in India in assisting local arities and social organisations.

11 LOADERS ARRESTED ON THEFT CHARGE

The detection of crime branch busted a huge racket in the ft of various articles, including fts, cheques and foreign cur- cy involving nearly Rs. 5 lakhs m passenger's baggages at Santa z airport with the arrest of 11 ders.

All of them were remanded to ice custody by the additional f metropolitan magistrate, Mr. I. Jadhav.

Several passengers on Air-India foreign and domestic flights e made complaints to the air- t authorities and the police ut the theft of articles from ir suitcases.

The police kept a watch on the movement of loaders and found the conduct of some of them "extremely suspicious".

Some of the alleged culprits were already suspended from duty and there were others who had not been reporting for duty.

Police inquiries revealed that they had formed a gang and were regularly opening the bags of passengers at nights. The police raided shops of the receivers of the stolen goods at Vile Parle and seized cameras, transistors, radio sets, watches, calculators and several other goods valued at about Rs. 50,000.

It was also stated that the loaders had opened foreign mail bags and removed drafts, cheques and foreign currency.

The police suspect that the value might exceed Rs. 5 lakhs as the loaders have been stealing goods for more than a year.

The operations were carried out by assistant police inspector Samson and inspectors Gupte and Parab.

AWARDS FOR IMPORT SUBSTITUTIONS

Eight firms, one research laboratory and two individuals are the recipients of the Republic Day National Awards for developing import substitutions this year.

The items developed by them are expected to result in an annual saving of about Rs. 40 million in foreign exchange.

The coveted two gold shields have gone to the Defence Electronic Research Laboratory, Hyderabad, for the development of Secondary Surveillance Radar; and to Bharat Electronics Ltd., Ghaziabad (UP) for the production of this radar.

The winners of the eight bronze shields are Blue Steel Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Bombay, for the development of Poldi-type Hardness Tester with Inter-Changeable Indenting Heads; Indian Hydraulic Industries Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, for the development of High Lift Commissary Service Van; Jyothi Ltd., Baroda, for the development of 33 KV, 750 MVA Circuit Breaker; Omintech Engineers (India) Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta, for the development of Reversing Machine; Production Tools Engineers, Bangalore, for the development of, among other things, spares for Tanaka Flame Cutting Machine; Kumar Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals, Karnataka, for the development of Kaolin Light; Nivedita Chemicals Pvt Ltd., Bombay, for the development of Vit. B2-5 Phosphate Sodium; and Mr. Amardeep Patheja and Mr Ashok Walawalker, Bombay, for the development of electro-magnetic clutches and brakes, clutch heads and telescopic brushes. Mr. Patheja and Mr. Walawalkar have won the shield jointly.

VISHWA HINDI AWARD FOR FOREIGNERS

Five foreign scholars have been awarded the Vishwa Hindi Puraskar for 1978.

The scholars are Prof. Odolen Smakal of Czechoslovakia, Prof. K. Doi of Japan, Pandit Kamla Prasad Mishra of Fiji, Mrs. Somdatt Buckhory of Mauritius and Prof. R. S. Mogregor of Britain.

The awards were decided by the award committee of the ministry of external affairs, headed by the external affairs minister Mr. A. B. Vajpayee.

The awards will be given away by the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Morarji Desai.

It is better to debate a question without settling it than to settle it without debate.

— Joubert

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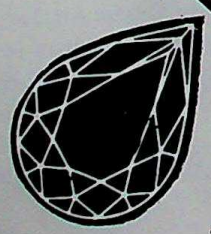

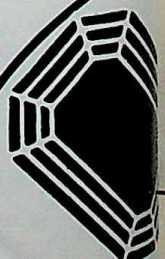

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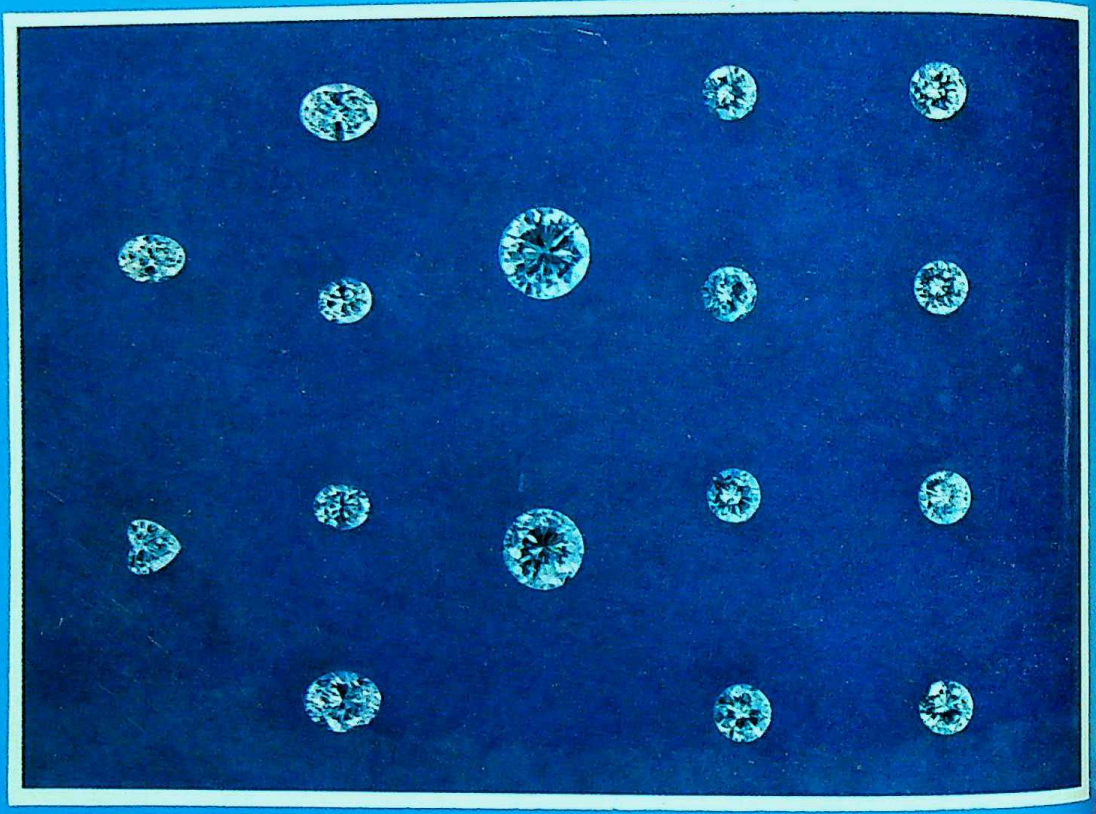

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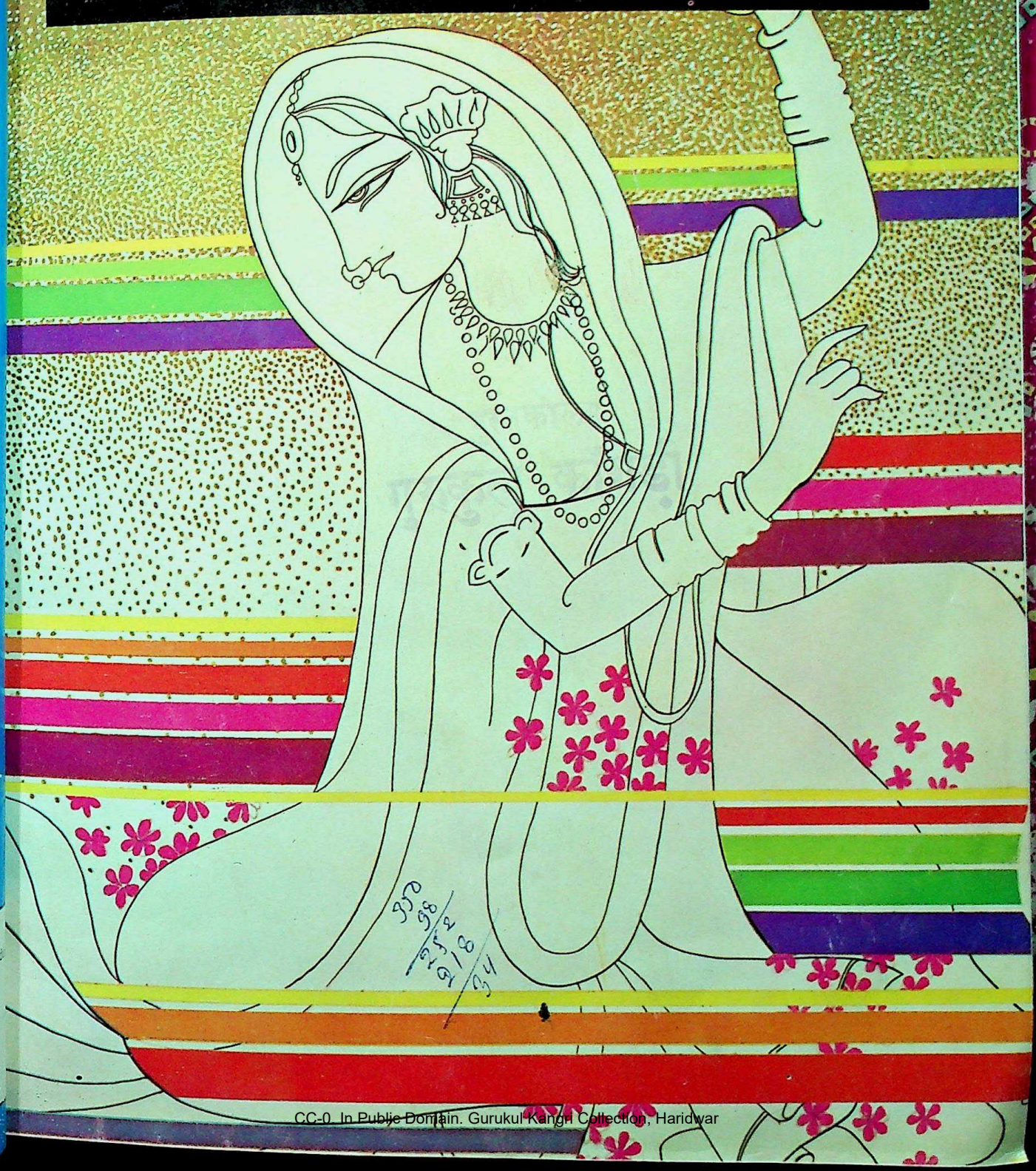

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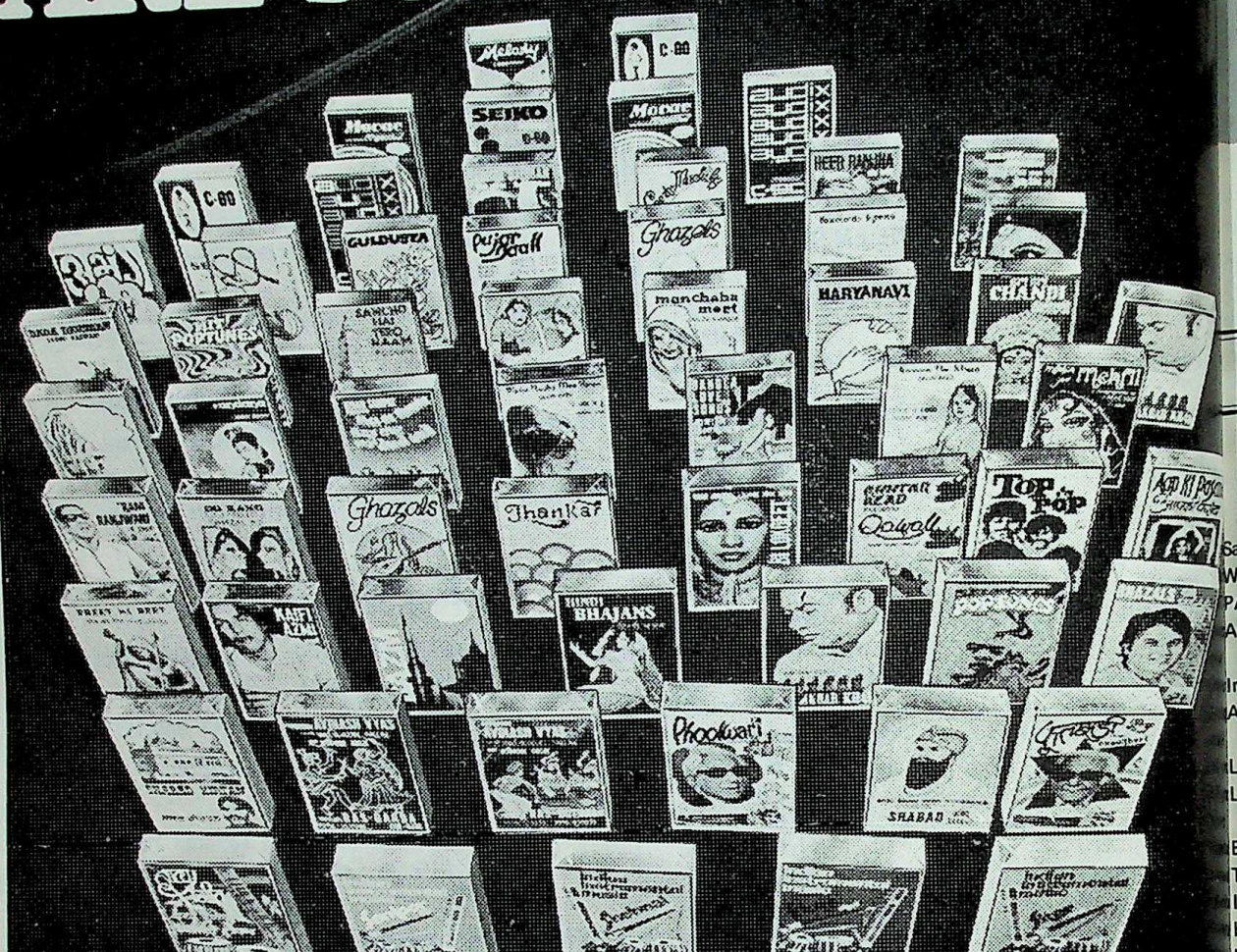

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Cover:
Welcome To India

Samaiki

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A large number of our subscribers and readers travel to India for vacation or business. To help them to plan their visit, efficiently and to give them all information that they might require frequently in India, we decided to bring out a special issue on the subject.

In this issue, you will find a listing of hotels at major Indian towns where you can stay without problem. Area codes for long distance telephone calls are given. Flying distances and hours, to India, and between various Indian towns, journey hours between major towns by railways are also furnished. Currency rates, climate, weather and temperature by months will all be found in this issue.

In brief, this issue is your companion during the India trip. Keep it, preserve it, share it with others. Take the issue with you to India. It will save you time, bother, irritation and delay.

The cover of this issue has been especially designed by India's leading designer Sudershan Dheer.

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WHAT IS PATA?

New Delhi was decked with flowers, silks & bustings like a bride. The hosts excelled in making guests welcome, comfortable, entertained and joyfully busy. The President and the Prime Minister of India, captains of business and industry, ministers and businessmen hosted parties for over 2000 delegates from 50 countries who congregated at New Delhi for the PATA Convention. India tried hard to sell tourism to PATA delegates who were travel agents, hoteliers, transporters & tour organisers. The delegates were also special invitees to the Republic Day Parade on January 26.

PATA Convention is held at different cities every year and it is a big show every time. What is PATA and what does it do?

It was a leading newspaper publisher of Honolulu, Louis Thurston, that conjured up the PATA idea on a sunny invigorating day. How wonderful it would be, he thought, to organise all travel from the Occident to the Pacific area in a consistent, cohesive and systematic manner, so as to ensure optimum benefit from existing opportunities, and the creation of fresh opportunities through multi media publicity.

The Pacific Area Travel Association (PATA) was thus conceived as a non-profit organisation, to stimulate interest in the Pacific area as a vacation land, and to develop, promote and facilitate travel to the area. And Thurston founded PATA in 1951 with 44 founder members. Its first conference was held in January 1952 in Honolulu itself. The following year's PATA's headquarters were established in San Francisco.

In the course of the years since then PATA has grown to include as many as 29 active chapters, in places like London, Paris, New York, Tokyo, Sydney, Hong Kong, Los Angeles and New Delhi. Two or three new chapters are organised yearly, to help more and more people keep abreast of the dynamic changes in Pacific travel.

The Association's membe now numbers 1500 mem drawn from as many a countries with 47 national and governments, 54 airlines and hotels amongst them. Every y 1500 strong PATA confe makes a lasting impression, an a profound impact on the and vacations of millions of pe

As tourism is increasingly coming dominant in determ the economic health of devel countries, the encouragement backing given by governments a priority basis. What PATA vides to the tourism mix is a of gestation ground, an organis which provides a meeting poin people involved in all aspects o travel trade from a very number of countries. In term up-to-date information, expe and practical and theoretica perience, PATA has no second.

And more, PATA helps and up-and-coming destinatio develop their infrastructure. It vides expertise and helps peop destinations comprehend the acter and needs of the fo visitor. Group travel schemes, plans, destinations, h operations and discounts are cussed and planned. The re PATA helps bring travel within reach of more and more peopl an example, the number of vis to the Asia Pacific area was million in 1975, with excha earnings amounting to $4,800 lion. Though this is still on small share of the over $30 b that international tourism gene annually, and is a pointer to untapped potential.

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The underlying philosophy of PATA's operations is very simple: all members of the travel trade, together with both directly and indirectly associated industries, should work together as a body, in conjunction with each other, to provide a new impetus to tourism in the Pacific area.

PATA is a sharing and learning organisation – the exchange of ideas and its willingness to learn make it a dynamic body – an organisation that is continually growing, continually developing. And with its strong accent on a high level of quality, it also brings the travel trade in the Pacific region credibility and reliability. In short, it helps make the Pacific area not only the world's most exciting destination, but one of the most reliable.

India has been an associate member of PATA since 1957, and hosted the 15th PATA conference in 1966. After that conference held in New Delhi, it became a full-fledged member. The Indian chapter now has 98 members.

The hosting of a PATA conference carries so much prestige that nations vie with one another for the privilege. The bid for PATA 78 started in Indonesia during the PATA conference there in 1974. At the Sydney conference in 1975, India and Sri Lanka made a concerted and unified bid to host PATA 78. Official confirmation that PATA 78 would be shared by India and Sri Lanka came at PATA 76 in Honolulu.

Having won the conference and work-shop for 1978, India and Sri Lanka joined hands to promote the meet together to get maximum participation. The first task was designing an appropriate symbol that would reflect the charms of the region. And the publicity wing of the India Tourism Development Corporation which was entrusted with the entire joint promotion came up with a symbol that featured common touristic attractions: the sun, the sea and Buddhism as represented graphically by the lotus.

At PATA 77 in Hong Kong last year, the promotion was kicked off with a spectacular multi-media presentation that combined musicians, dancers, slides and movies against an everchanging backdrop that included a starlit sky and dancing fountains. This presentation has since been capsulised and despatched to the department of Tourism's regional directors in New York, London, Geneva, Tokyo and Sydney to drum up further enthusiasm for PATA 78. Within India the entire travel industry is alive to the challenge and potential of PATA 78.

Preceding the New Delhi conference was held a two-day work-shop in Colombo on January 19 and 20, the theme of both being "Tourism – the challenge of change." This important meet is planned as a means for creating greater public awareness of tourism as a vital social and economic force, and to secure whole-hearted participation in the tourism effort.

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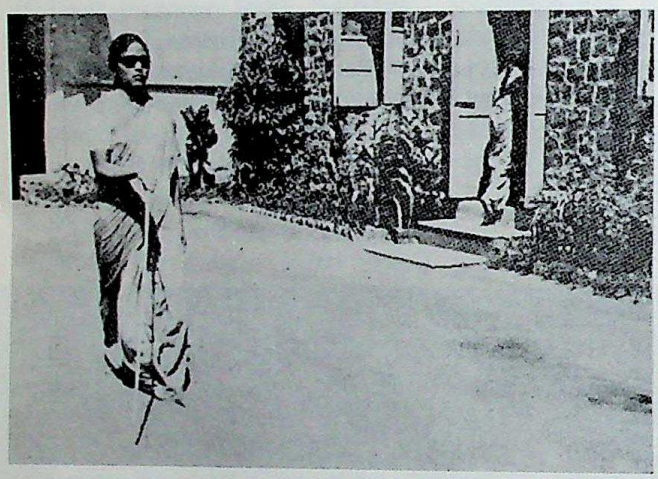

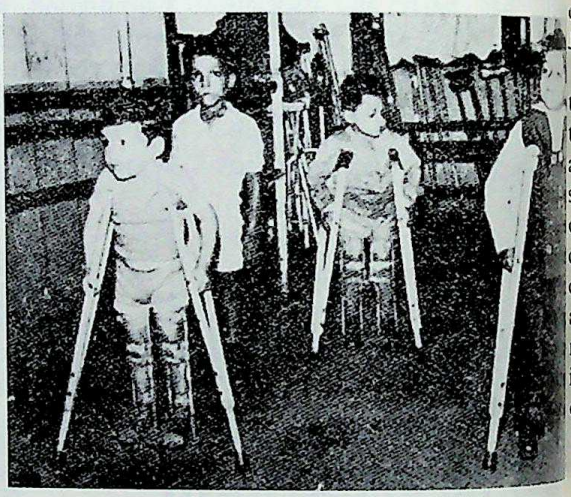

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PATA '78 CONFERENCE IN NEW DELHI: A SUCCESS

By Somnath Dhar
Our Special Correspondent

The inauguration of 27th conference of the Pacific Area Travel Association by Prime Minister Morarji Desai at the glittering Convention Hall of Ashoka Hotel on January 23, 1978, was a red letter day for Indian tourism. The convention (January 23-26) was preceded by a Workshop in Sri Lanka, January 19-20.

As against 500 delegates who attended the 1966 PATA Convention that was held in India, this time the attendance was 1700 delegates (and spouses) – a record number. The delegates were welcomed to the colourful venue of the crowded conference by a bevy of pretty girls applying the traditional vermilion mark on their foreheads and offering garlands of beads to each of the delegates.

TOURISM FOR BETTER UNDERSTANDING

The Prime Minister, Mr. Desai said: "We are living in a world full of potential strife and we are trying to see the end of strife and ensure that there is no war". Tourism should bring together people throughout the world and foster understanding among them. That was the only way of achieving peace.

Tourism should not be merely for amusement and pleasure; it was also for learning, Mr. Desai observed. He hoped the conference would make useful suggestions to make the tourist's life more and more pleasant and enable them to learn and exchange views among themselves for a better understanding in the world.

Mr. Desai laid stress on facilities that needed to be provided to tourists and how travel agents could, in this regard, do a lot more than the Government. The facilities should not be directed towards catering only to those going into five-star hotels but also to those with moderate means. The commercial aspects were only incidental, the Prime Minister said. India, like other countries, would like to develop tourism. It was particularly keen to learn from tourists so that its development could be more meaningful. Mr. Desai was given a standing ovation by the delegates after his address.

The delegates from more than 60 countries (including our Editor, Mr. K. Sital, as a delegate from Hong Kong) earlier heard the welcome address by Mr. Purushottam Kaushik, India's Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation. He suggested that tourism should be looked upon less as a money-spinning enterprise than as a means of bringing peoples of the world together. He said the conference, which was being held in India after 12 years, would help to give further impetus to tourism. Facilities were being created for tourists of different economic levels – youth hostels, *dharmshalas*, clean and comfortable but inexpensive hotels for the not-so-affluent and, of course, four and

To PATA With Love

Courtesy: Indrama, Sita World Travel, New Delhi, PATA Number.

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This is it!

By Sudhir Dar

"Hey, fella get me a bed like that . . . for my mother-in-law!"

Courtesy: The Hindustan Times

five-star hotels. The Minister observed that "aggressive competition" to capture tourist markets gave an appearance that tourism was being developed as an end in itself. "To meet the new challenges it would be necessary to find the ethos of tourism and its value, not in monetary terms alone, but as related to culture and the life style of the people."

Tourism, he added, could be described as having been successfully propagated only if it could bring about beneficial social and economic changes and generated goodwill and better understanding among the peoples of the world.

INDIA'S CULTURAL HERITAGE

Mr. Brijlal Verma, India's Minister of Communications, released the commemorative stamp on the occasion and Mr. Desai presented the stamp to the PATA President, Mr. M. A. Ramsden. The multi-coloured stamp depicts a tourist couple in a *Shikara* (gondola) on the Dal Lake in Kashmir.

Mr. C. B. Jain, Chairman of the PATA conference and Director General of Tourism, said tourist

GREETING FROM INDIA

One of the folk dancers from India that entertained the PATA delegates and their spouses at Ashoka Hall. Delegates witnessed a number of Indian classical and folk dance performances.

Photo: I.T.D.C.

traffic to India had increased from 150,000 in 1966 to 650,000 in 1977. He hoped the delegates would have an opportunity of seeing the condensed image of the cultural heritage of India during their stay in the country.

The Ambassador of South Korea, Mr. Kim, Chairman-elect of the next PATA conference, was confident that the Delhi conference would promote tourism in the Pacific region to a great extent. He thanked India for hosting the 27th annual conference to show the great cultural heritage of India to the world tourist trade.

In between the working sessions, PATA delegates and spouses were treated to Nepal and Korea nights, highlighted by *bonhomie* generated by the excellent hospitality and superb cultural programmes. The dance and music programmes laid on by the host country, whether in India or earlier at the workshop in Sri Lanka, were of the highest standard. The host countries utilised the grand opportunity to take the delegates round in pre- and post-PATA tours to their best attractions. Exposure of the spots to the tour operators will result in a big dividend.

The impact of these trips will also show in the writings of over 50 distinguished travel writers who attended the conference. These included the well-known travel writer, Mr. Horace Sutton of

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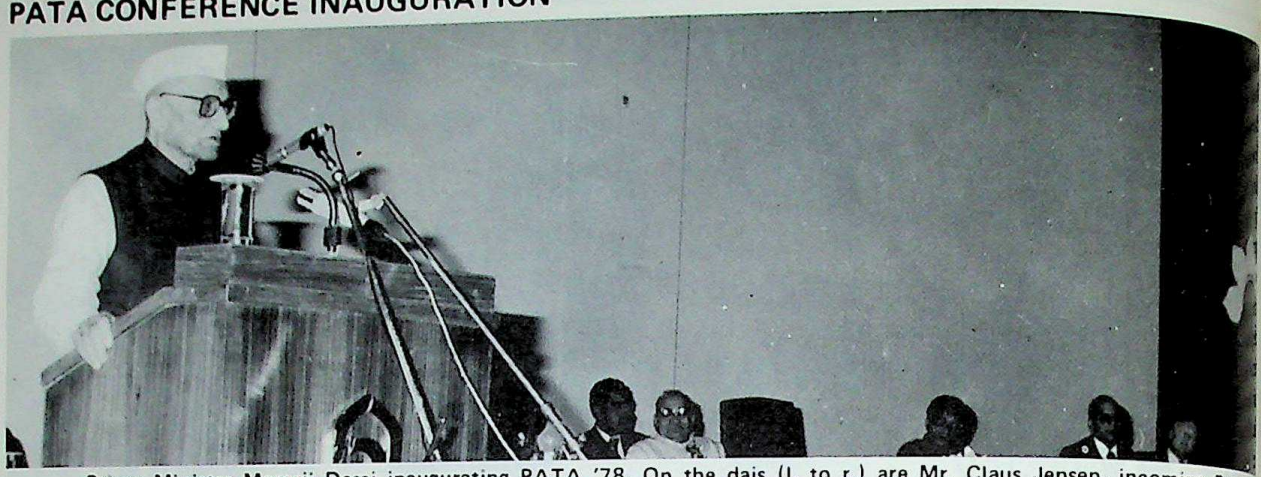
PATA CONFERENCE INAUGURATION



Prime Minister Morarji Desai inaugurating PATA '78. On the dais (l. to r.) are Mr. Claus Jensen, incoming Presid Mr. M.A. Ramsden, PATA President, Mr. C.B. Jain, Conference Chairman, Mr. Purushottam Kaushik, India's Minister for Tour and Civil Aviation, and Mr. Brijlal Verma, Minister for Communications.

Saturday Review, a team from the *Sunset* magazine, Mr. Stephen Roe *(Travel Trade Gazette*, U.K.), Mr. Tom Chapman (Editor, *Pacific* magazine, Japan) and Mr. Dean Barrett (Editor, *Seasons* magazine, Hong Kong).

In New Delhi, the delegates enjoyed the open air hospitality at the Oberoi Farm near Palam airport, in a festive atmosphere. Equally interesting entertainment laid on for the guests at Agra and in Haryana, at Dabchick tourist complex. Only the 'Kashmir Nite', advertised in advance, along with a dinner for the delegates by the Chief Minister, Sheikh Abdullah, never came off! PATA BAZAR at Ashoka was popular. So were the separate programmes for spouses of delegates.

DELIBERATIONS

A number of papers were read and discussed at the conference. Taking stock of the year since PATA conference in Hong Kong in February 1977, PATA office-bearers, seized of the theme of the conference, "Challenge of Change," pointed out how PATA had become more effective in many areas, particularly marketing in Europe, and North America, the latter being the traditional marketing area. Tourism being a puzzling phenomenon fraught with contradictions and paradoxes, the dangers of cheapening indigenous culture in PATA's 31 Pacific destinations were considered. The decreasing age of the travellers was another new factor, adding to the challenges faced by the tourism industry which seems set to become the world's No. One industry.

The main impact in future may well be at the social and political level: people at the destinations may aspire to the basic rights and priveleges of visitors. Giving this view, a delegate disclosed that the World Tourist Organisation has mooted an international bill of rights for tourists and a code of conduct covering the travel industry and governments worldwide.

How tourism development must take place deliberately, not haphazardly, in the PATA area, how training to the personnel should be provided at all levels (from basic vocational to Ph.D. in tourism), how the visas in the area may be eliminated as has been done in Europe, how the fears in tourism-prosperous areas that the current tourism boom might evolve into as-yet unexperienced brand of colonialism might be eliminated, were some of the more thought-provoking deliberations at the conference. Organisational patterns of PATA, the present weight of representation confined to the active governments and the carriers members, were also considered, along with publicity and promotion programmes.

NEW HORIZONS

Mr. J.R.D. Tata's speech "Trends in Air Transportation" the opening day was full of significance. His plea for a realistic structure, which would truly re the varying quality of comfort service in the air and on the ground could not have been more timely. Rather than continue under-counter rebates and other kick backs which discriminate against the full-fare paying passengers, suggested the introduction of the class conception of travel, which would almost certainly generate additional traffic badly needed to fill the present generation of stretched jets. Mr. Tata predicted an annual growth rate of per cent in world air travel in the next decade. In contemporary terms the tourist industry's chief infrastructure is air transport. As quoted in a paper presented at the conference by Mr. J. M. Thompson from New Zealand, "aviation technology is the keystone in keeping airline costs down and hence keeping airline fares at a modest level."

Tourism as it has developed in the years since World War II is essentially a spin-off from the various developments in the air transport industry. "PATA tends to lose sight of this basic fact in its rather evangelically slick concern for the preservation of the cultural mix of

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Pacific area, which now includes Australia, and the Soviet Union," thus commented a national daily, chewing the cud of PATA '78 deliberations. Mr. Mathew A. Ramsden, President of PATA, was asked by this correspondent, at his news conference at Ashoka Hotel whether PATA was overstressing the cultural heritage of the PATA region, and thereby giving less attention to the creation of tourism infrastructure and improvement of facilities. His learned reply, couched in pious generalities, however, revealed the good intentions of PATA to bolster tourism in the area. It was good to hear from him as well as the President-elect, Mr. Claus Jensen that "as compared to other conferences, the New Delhi convention was highly successful and well-organised." The energetic Conference Secretary, Mr. K. B. Singh, was praised on all hands. And, for the umpteenth time India demonstrated that Delhi is a conference venue *par excellence.*

A view of the crowded audience at the Convention Hall of Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi – the biggest conference venue in any hotel in Asia.

Photo: Press Information Bureau, New Delhi

Sure enough, PATA '78 was a bonanza for Indian tourism. India's hosting of PATA – perhaps the largest travel promotion organisation in the world, with a membership of about 2,000, including about 40 governments, 40 international airlines, major tour operators, hoteliers, magazines, newspapers, etc. – for a second time within a decade will help generate increased tourism to the country. With good luck and concerted efforts of the Central Department of Tourism and the State governments as well as the national carriers and the private sector, we may well achieve the target of one million tourists by 1980.

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BOMBAY TO

	Hrs.
Ahmedabad	1.00
Aurangabad	0.40
Bangalore	1.25
Baroda	1.15
Belgaum	1.20
Bhavnagar	1.05
Bhopal	2.50
Bhuj	2.30
Calcutta	2.15
Cochin	3.45
Dabolim	0.55
Delhi	1.45
Gwalior	4.20
Hyderabad	1.20
Indore	1.50
Jabalpur	5.20
Jaipur	3.30
Jamnagar	1.40
Jodhpur	3.40
Keshod	1.15
Mangalore	2.10
Madras	1.35
Nagpur	2.05
Porbandar	1.25
Pune	0.35
Raipur	4.05
Rajkot	1.25
Trivandrum	1.55
Udaipur	2.15

DELHI TO

	Hrs.
Agra	0.30
Ahmedabad	1.15
Amritsar	0.50
Aurangabad	3.25
Bangalore	3.20
Bhopal	1.50
Bombay	1.45
Calcutta	1.55
Chandigarh	1.00
Gorakhpur	3.00
Gwalior	1.05
Hyderabad	1.55
Indore	3.40
Jabalpur	3.05
Jaipur	0.35
Jammu	2.45
Jodhpur	2.20
Kanpur	1.30
Khajuraho	1.40
Kathmandu	1.25
Lucknow	1.30
Madras	3.25
Nagpur	1.25
Patna	2.15
Raipur	4.20
Ranchi	3.25
Srinagar	1.10
Udaipur	1.50
Varanasi	2.50

CALCUTTA TO

	Hrs.
Agartala	1.10
Bangalore	3.30
Bagdogra	0.55
Bhubaneshwar	1.25
Bombay	2.30
Chittagong	1.40
Delhi	2.00
Dibrugarh	2.10
Gauhati	0.55
Gorakhpur	2.05
Hyderabad	2.05
Imphal	2.10
Jorhat	2.15
Kathmandu	1.10
Lilabari	4.20
Madras	2.05
Port Blair	5.25
Rangoon	3.45
Silchar	1.40
Tezpur	2.40
Visakhapatnam	3.10

MADRAS TO

Bangalore
Bombay
Calcutta
Cochin
Coimbatore
Delhi
Hyderabad
Madurai
Mangalore
Nagpur
Tirupati
Tiruchirapalli
Trivandrum

AHMEDABAD TO

Bombay
Delhi
Jaipur
Jodhpur
Udaipur

BANGALORE TO

Bombay
Calcutta
Coimbatore
Dabolim
Delhi
Madras
Mangalore
Hyderabad

HYDERABAD TO

Bangalore
Bombay
Calcutta
Delhi
Madras
Tirupati
Vijaywada
Vishakhapatnam

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International Air Distances

	Bombay	Delhi	Frankfurt	H. Kong	London	Montreal	Moscow	N. York	Paris	Rome	Singapore	Sydney	Teheran	Tokyo
Amsterdam	4258	5737	228	8551	230	3422	1330	3639	261	809	6524	13306	2527	9522
Auckland	7662	9406	6883	6883	14202	10968	14622	10730	14452	14061	5230	1343	9331	8275
Bangkok	1871	1815	5575	1065	8038	11618	4396	11401	7810	7011	897	5774	3394	2849
Brussels	4263	5679	190	8493	211	3452	1383	3662	170	734	6551	13249	2525	9631
Cairo	2699	2738	1815	6099	2185	6514	1796	6730	1995	1329	5127	10855	1216	8245
Dubai	1199	1359	3008	3695	3412	6793	2303	6831	3258	2696	3630	7580	759	4828
Frankfurt	4082	5463	–	8277	400	3640	1253	3851	289	598	6379	13033	2342	9776
Geneva	4173	5391	287	8205	457	3671	1493	3859	250	439	6519	12961	2434	10029
Hong Kong	2673	2345	8277	–	8252	10345	6063	10279	8493	7694	1607	4586	3843	1788
Istanbul	2992	4202	1158	7016	1554	5754	1093	6010	1394	852	5379	11772	1270	9162
Karachi	544	665	3539	3596	5276	8888	2608	9104	3810	3307	2943	8269	1199	5742
Kuwait	1714	1755	2499	4092	2903	6264	1918	6335	2739	2168	2942	8007	1200	5168
Lagos	5140	6015	3018	8930	3098	6734	4806	6528	2922	2497	7248	11898	3659	11076
London	4477	5907	400	8252	–	3251	1557	3456	209	892	6754	13477	2738	9536
Manila	3189	3656	6394	702	9564	2332	6906	10368	9336	8536	1481	3892	4503	1862
Mexico City	10206	12054	7124	10726	6649	2306	8058	2086	6856	7639	12638	9757	8487	8581
Montreal	7942	3821	3640	10345	3251	–	5259	330	3433	4100	9193	12045	6223	8199
Moscow	3136	2708	1253	6063	1557	5259	–	5620	1533	1476	5242	11044	1526	4667
Nairobi	2817	3364	3925	5437	4247	7271	3955	7349	4024	3353	4628	7536	2718	7019
New York	7718	9550	3851	10279	3456	330	5620	–	3628	4280	9525	12052	6413	8133
Paris	4349	5679	289	8493	209	3433	1533	3628	–	688	6667	13249	2610	9771
Prague	9334	3549	253	5460	649	3852	1036	4068	542	581	6126	9997	2093	8531
Rio de Janeiro	9547	11263	9775	13429	6914	6175	8606	4816	5697	5707	9775	12741	7828	13512
Rome	3840	3679	6238	7694	892	4100	1476	4280	688	–	6238	12450	2121	9840
Singapore	2432	2578	6379	1605	6754	9193	5242	9525	6667	6238	–	3912	4110	3294
Stockholm	4842	6057	59992	8871	908	4725	760	3917	963	1519	5992	13627	2214	9726
Sydney	6308	7795	13033	4586	13477	12045	11044	12052	13249	12450	3916	–	8021	6904
Teheran	1743	1582	2342	4712	2738	7465	1537	7681	2610	2121	4110	9693	–	6858
Tokyo	4184	4959	9776	1788	9536	8199	4667	8133	9771	9840	3294	6904	4770	–

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New Delhi	1542
Agra	1344
Lucknow	1420
Ahmedabad	492
Amritsar	1834
Hyderabad	792
Nagpur	837
Howrah	2174
Madras	1554
Jaipur	1118
Indore	956
Bangalore	1203
Cochin	2131

MADRAS TO	KMs
Calcutta	1660
Bangalore	1554
Delhi	2192
Hyderabad	70
Agra	1994
Nagpur	1095
Cochin	714

DELHI TO	KMs
Bombay	1542
Agra	199
Lucknow	488
Amritsar	512
Madras	2192
Nagpur	1097
Hyderabad	1541
Howrah	14
Patna	9

CALCUTTA TO	K
Delhi	14
Lucknow	9
Patna	8
Amritsar	18
Agra	12
Jaipur	14
Bombay	21
Nagpur	11
Indore	17
Ahmedabad	20
Madras	16
Hyderabad	15

LONG DISTANCE DIRECT DIALING

STD

From Bombay to

Station	*Area Code*
Ahmedabad	0272
Bhiwandi	924
Bhopal	0755
Calcutta	033
Gandhinagar	0271
Indore	0731
Madras	044
Nagpur	0712
Nasik	923
New Delhi	011
Pune	0212
Surat	0261

NIGHT SERVICE

Agra	0562
Bangalore	0812
Chandigarh	0172
Coimbatore	0422
Jaipur	0141
Jullunder	0181
Madurai	0452

From Delhi to

Station	*Area Code*
Agra	0562
Ahmedabad	9272
Aligarh	954
Alwar	981
Amritsar	9183
Bhopal	977
Bombay	022
Chandigarh	0172
Gandhi Nagar	92729
Gurgaon	9227
Hapur	9122
Jaipur	914
Jammu	9191
Jullundur	0181
Kanpur	951
Lucknow	952
Meerut	913
Madras	044
Modinagar	9223
Patna	9612
Rohtak	932
Simla	9177
Sonepat	9226
Srinagar	9194
Trivandrum	0471

NIGHT SERVICE

Bangalore	0812
Calcutta	033
Coimbatore	0422
Ernakulam	0484
Madurai	0452
Nagpur	0712
Pune	0212

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Surat	0261

From Calcutta to

Station	*Area Code*
Asansol	0341
Bahula	03442
Barakar	03446
Bhubaneshwar	0674
Bombay	022
Burnpur	03448
Coimbatore	0422
Choudar	067129
Cuttack	0671
Ernakulam	0484
Hyderabad	0884
Jamshedpur	0657
Jamuriah	03443
Kharagpur	0321
Madras	440
Neamatpur	03445
New Delhi	011
Patna	0612
Raniganj	03447
Rupnarayanpur	03444
Trichur	0431
Trivandrum	0471

From Madras to

Station	*Area Code*
Bangalore	0812
Bombay	022
Bhubaneshwar	0674
Calcutta	033
Chingleput	947
Coimbatore	0422
Ernakulum	0484
Kancheepuram	942
Madurai	946
New Delhi	011
Ooty	0423
Secunderabad	984
Tiruchirapalli	943
Tirupathi	981
Tiruppud	0421
Trivandrum	0471
Velore	945
Vijayawada	986

NIGHT SERVICE

Agra	0562
Ahmedabad	0272
Chandigarh	0172
Jaipur	0141
Jullundur	0181
Nagpur	0712
Pune	0212
Surat	0261

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Agra	20.00	Gwalior	16.00	Mussorie	20.00
Ahmedabad	10.00	Harihar	16.00	Mysore	16.00
Allahabad	20.00	Hassan	16.00	Nagpur	16.00
Amritsar	20.00	Hubli	10.00	Nainital	20.00
Aurangabad	10.00	Hyderabad	16.00	Otacamund	16.00
Bangalore	16.00	Indore	16.00	Patna	20.00
Bareilly	20.00	Jabalpur	16.00	Poona	6.00
Baroda	10.00	Jaipur	16.00	Puri	20.00
Bhavnagar	10.00	Jammu	20.00	Quilon	20.00
Bhopal	16.00	Jamshedpur	20.00	Rajamundhry	16.00
Calcutta	20.00	Jodhpur	16.00	Rajkot	10.00
Calicut	16.00	Jorhat	20.00	Ranchi	20.00
Chandigarh	20.00	Jullundur	20.00	Salem	16.00
Cochin	20.00	Kanpur	20.00	Shillong	20.00
Coimbatore	16.00	Kodaikanal	20.00	Sholapur	10.00
Cuttack	20.00	Kotah	16.00	Simla	20.00
Darjeeling	20.00	Kottayam	20.00	Srinagar	20.00
Dehra Dun	20.00	Lucknow	20.00	Surat	10.00
New Delhi	20.00	Ludhiana	20.00	Tiruchirapalli	20.00
Dhanbad	20.00	Madras	20.00	Trivandrum	20.00
Digha	20.00	Madurai	20.00	Udaipur	16.00
Eluru	16.00	Mangalore	16.00	Varanasi	20.00
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Guntur	16.00	Mt. Abu	16.00	Vishakapatnam	20.00

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Correct Upto July 1977

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Australia	dollar	9.91	10.09
Austria	shilling	0.52	192.31
Belgium	franc	0.24	416.67
Canada	dollar	8.32	12.02
Denmark	krona	1.45	68.97
France	franc	1.78	56.18
W. Germany	d'mark	3.73	26.81
Hong Kong	dollar	1.91	52.36
Italy	lira	0.01	10000.00
Japan	yen	0.03	333.33
Kenya	shilling	1.10	90.91
Malaysia	dollar	3.62	27.62
Netherlands	guilder	3.54	28.25
Norway	krone	1.66	60.24
Singapore	dollar	3.65	27.40
Sweden	kronya	1.99	50.25
Switzerland	franc	3.53	28.33
Tanzania	shilling	1.10	90.91
Uganda	shilling	1.11	90.09
U.K.	pound	15.17	6.59
U.S.A.	dollar	8.82	11.34
Albania	new lek	1.50	66.67
Argentina	new peso	0.02	5000.00
Brazil	new cruzeiro	0.64	156.25
Burma	kyat	1.33	75.19
Chile	escudo	0.47	212.77
Colombia	peso	0.24	416.66
Costa Rica	colon	1.02	98.04
Cuba	peso	10.63	9.41
Cyprus	pound	21.39	4.68
Czechoslovakia	koruna	1.56	64.10
Domin. Rep.	peso	8.81	11.35
Ecuador	sucre	0.35	285.71
Egypt	pound	12.50	8.00
El. Salvador	colon	3.53	28.33
Ethiopia	dollar	4.25	23.53
Finland	markka	2.16	46.30
Gambia	pound	3.78	26.46
Greece	drachma	0.24	426.67
Guatamala	quetzal	8.81	11.35
Guyana	dollar	3.46	28.90

		Indian Rupee Equivalent
Haiti	gourde	1.76
Hungary	forint	0.43
Iceland	krona	0.05
Iran	rial	0.12
Iraq	dinar	29.86
Israel	pound	0.93
Jamaica	dollar	7.05
Jordan	dinar	27.26
Lebanon	pound	2.88
Luxembourg	franc	0.24
Malawi	pound	9.74
Mauritius	rupee	1.33
Nepal	rupee	0.71
New Zealand & Cook Is.	dollar	8.47
Nicaragua	cordoba	1.25
Nigeria	pound	12.64
Pakistan	rupee	0.90
Panama	balboa	8.81
Paraguay	guarani	0.08
Peru	sol	0.11
Philippines	peso	1.19
Poland	zloty	0.43
Portugal	escudo	0.23
Rumania	leu	1.78
S. Africa	rand	10.13
Spain	peseta	0.13
Sri Lanka	rupee	1.21
Sudan	pound	25.32
Syria	pound	2.24
Thailand	baht	0.43
Trinidad & Tobago	dollar	3.67
Tunisia	dinar	20.64
Turkey	pound	0.50
U.A.E.	dirham	2.26
Uruguay	peso	1.94
U.S.S.R.	rouble	11.91
Venezuela	bolivar	2.05
Zambia	kwacha	11.13

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Taxation Rates On Personal Income

INCOME TAX

ASSESSMENT YEAR 1977-1978

Income between Group			Rate %	Deduct constant
8001	to	15,000	15	1200
15001	to	20,000	18	1650
20001	to	25,000	25	3050
25001	to	30,000	30	4300
30001	to	50,000	40	7300
50001	to	70,000	50	12300
70001	to	100,000	55	15800
100001	&	above	60	20800

RCHARGE (Union) @ 10% of the Income-tax Compulsory Deposit

15001	to	25000	@ 4%
25001	to	70000	@ 10% less 1500
70001	&	above	@ 12% less 2900

Income tax shall be payable on a total income not exceeding Rs.10000

WEALTH TAX

Individuals s of Net Wealth	Rate	H.U.Fs	Rate	Additional Wealth tax on value of urban immovable property (for Individuals & H.U.Fs)	
				Value of Urban assets	Rate
the first Rs. 5 lakhs	1%	on the first Rs. 5 lakhs	3%	Upto Rs. 5 lakhs	Nil
the next Rs. 5 lakhs	3%	on the next Rs. 5 lakhs	4%	Upto Rs. 5 lakhs – Rs. 10 lakhs	5% of excess over Rs. 5 lakhs
the next Rs. 5 lakhs	4%	on the balance	8%	Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 15 lakhs	Rs. 25000 + 7% of excess over Rs. 10 lakhs

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GIFT TAX (1975-76 and onwards)

Value of all taxation gifts		Rate of Gift Tax
Does not exceed Rs. 20000	5%	1000 + 10% of excess over Rs. 2000
Rs. 20001 50000		4000 + 15% of excess over Rs. 5000
Rs. 50001 100000		11500 + 20% of excess over Rs. 10000
Rs. 100001 200000		
Rs. 200001 500000		31500 + 25% of excess over Rs. 20000
Rs. 500001 1000000		106500 + 30% of excess over Rs. 50000
Rs.1000001 1500000		256500 + 40% of excess over Rs.100000
Rs.1500001 2000000		456500 + 50% of excess over Rs.150000
Rs.2000001 and over		

Remarks:

(i) Exempted gifts u/s 5 (1) of the Gift Tax Act

(ii) Exemption limit of Rs.5000 u/s 5(2) of the Gift Tax Act

Value of taxable gifts arrived at after excluding

ESTATE DUTY (1966-67 and onwards)

Slabs of Principal Value of the Estate		Rate of Duty
On the first	Rs. 50000	Nil
On the next	Rs. 50000	4%
,,	Rs.100000	10%
,,	Rs.150000	15%
,,	Rs.150000	25%
,,	Rs.500000	30%
,,	Rs.500000	40%
,,	Rs.500000	50%
On the balance		85%

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Indian Diplomats Abroad

Embassies

AFGHANISTAN

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
Malai Wat
Kabul

ALGERIA

The Third Secretary
Embassy of India
119 Ter Rue
Didouche Maurad
Algiers

ARGENTINA

The Second Secretary
Embassy of India
Paraguay 580 (3rd floor)
Buenos Aires

AUSTRIA

The Second Secretary
Embassy of India
1, Opening
Vienna-1

BAHRAIN

Embassy of India
2299/7 Al Adlia Area
Jufair Bahrain

BELGIUM

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
121 Avenue Moiliere
Brussels-18

BOLIVIA

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
La Paz

BRAZIL

The Counsellor
Embassy of India
Rua-Braodo-Flamango
22 Apots 801 and 802
Rio de Janeiro GB
Brazil

BULGARIA

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
31 Bld Patriarh Evtimi
Sofia

BURMA

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
Oriental Insurance Bldgs
545/547 Mercant St.
P.O. No. 751
Rangoon

BURUNDI

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Bajumbura

CAMBODIA

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
3 F/2 A Boulevard
Techecoslov Square
Phnom Penh

CAMEROUM

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Yaounde

CHILE

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
871 Triana Santiago

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
8 Kwang Hua Lu
Peking

COLOMBIA

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Bogota

CONGO

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
PB No. 1026 18B Avenue 8
Eme Armee
Kinshasa

COSTA RICA

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
San Jose

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CUBA

The First Secretary/CDA
Embassy of India
Calle 21 No
202 Esquinag K Vedado
La Habana
Havana

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The First Secretary/CDA
Embassy of India
Valdstejnska 6
Prague 1

DAHOMEY

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Cotonou

DENMARK

The Attache
Embassy of India
8-11 Amagertory
1160 Copenhagen

EGYPT

Ambassador
Embassy of India
5 El Shaer Aziz Abaza St.
P O Box 718 Cairo

The Counsellor (Com)
Embassy of India
5 Sharia Maadhad et Swissri
P.B 718 Zamalok
Cairo

ETHIOPIA

The First Secretary (Com)
Embassy of India
Kabaena (Awara Distt)
P.B 528
Addis Ababa

FINLAND

The Attache
Embassy of India
Kansakoulukatu
5 B 14 Helsinki 10

FRANCE

The Second Secretary (Com)
Embassy of India
15 Rue Godot de Mansion
Paris

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Clara-Zetkin
Strasse 89/06
Berlin

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

The Counsellor (Com)
Embassy of India
262 Adenaueralle 53
Bonn

GREECE

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Athens

GUINEA

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
Kebe Building 3rd Floor
Avenue dela Republique BP
186 Bis Conakry 1

HONGKONG

Commissioner,
Commission of India
304, A.I.A. Building
1 Stubbs Road
Hong Kong

HUNGARY

The Second Secretary (Com)
Embassy of India
Buzavirag Utcaa 14
Budapest 11

ICELAND

Ambassador
Embassy of India
Reykjavik

INDONESIA

The Embassy of India
P.B. No. 44 Kabon
Serih
Djakarta

IRAN

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
No. 166 Avenue Saba Shomali
Off Takkht Jamshid
P B No. 2473
Tehran

IRAQ

The Second Secretary
Embassy of India
22/12 Al Taha Najeeb Pasha
Adhamiya
Baghdad

IRELAND

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
58 Upper Lesson Street
Dublin 4

ITALY

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
Via Francesco Denza
Rome

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IVORY COAST

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Abidjan

JAPAN

The First Secretary (Com)
Embassy of India
Minami
Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo

JORDAN

The First Secretary/CDA
Embassy of India 1st Circle
Jabel Amman
Post Box No. 2168

KOREA

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
San 2-1 Bokwang-Dong
Yongsan ku
Seoul

KOREA

Embassy of India
Block 66 Munso dong
District Daedong Yong

KUWAIT

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
Ring Road No. 1 Dasmah
Kuwait

LAOS

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
Rue Pang Kham
P.B No. 225
Vientiane

LEBANON

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
31 Kahtri Street
Sahmarani Bldg.
P.B 1764
Beirut

LIBERIA

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Monrovia

LIBYA

The First Secretary CDA
Embassy of India
16/18 Sh Armondi
P.B No. 3150
Tripoli

LUXEMBOURG

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

MADAGASCAR

The Third Secretary
Embassy of India 77 Avenue
Marechal Foch, PB No 1787
Tananarive

MALDIVE

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Mali

MAURITANIA

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Nouackchott

MEXICO

The Second Secretary
Embassy of India
Comte 44 (Colonia Anzures)
Mexico 5 DF

MONGOLIA

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Ulan Bator

MOROCCO

The Second Secretary
Embassy of India
11 Rue Des Cantes Rabat

MOZAMBIQUE

Ambassador
Embassy of India
Hotel Polono
AV Antonia Ens 1380 P.B 1151
Lourenco Marques 3

NEPAL

The Counsellor
Embassy of India
G.P.O. Box 292
Kathmandu

NETHERLANDS

The First Secretary/C D A G I
Embassy of India
Buitenrustweg 2
The Hague

NORWAY

The First Secretary
Embassy of India No. 48
Professor Dahis Gate
Oslo

OMAN

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
P.B 77
Muscat

PANAMA

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Panama

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PARAGUAY

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Asunction

PERU

The First Secretary CDA
Embassy of India
Peru

PHILIPPINES

The First Secretary (Com)
Embassy of India
2856 Jerge C. Bocob St. Multze
Manila

POLAND

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
No. 16 Niegoleskkiego
Warsaw

PORTUGAL

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Rua das Amoreiras
72 D 60 Lisbon 1

QATAR

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Sheikh Suheim St.
El Sheikh Suheim St.
P.Box No. 2788
Doha

RUMANIA

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
16 Aleea Stefan Georghlu
Bucharest

SAUDI ARABIA

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
Sharai-ul-Malik Al Sharafia
Jeddah

SPAIN

The Second Secretary
Embassy of India
Calle Marques de Urquijo 38
Madrid

SRI LANKA

The First Secretary
(Commercial)
High Commissions of India
7 Kollupitiya
Station Road
Colombo-3

SUDAN

The Second Secretary (Com)
Embassy of India
Kronfli Building (3rd floor)
Sharia Gamhoria P B No. 707
Khartoum

SWEDEN

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
V Tradgarsagatan 15
Stockholm

SWITZERLAND

The Second Secretary
Embassy of India
20 Kalcheggwege Borne

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

The Second Secretary (Com)
Embassy of India
Yasin Nuwailati Bldg.
Damascus

THAILAND

The Counsellor
Embassy of India
139 Pan Road
Bangkok

TURKEY

The First Secretary
Embassy of India
No. 50 Kizlirmark
Sokak Kocatepe
Ankara

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Said Omran Al Mazroi Bldg.
Abu Dhabi

U.S.A.

The Minister
Embassy of India
2107 Massachussetts Avenue
N W Washington D C 20008

U.S.S.R.

The Minister
Embassy of India
No. 6-8 Ulitsa Obukha
Moscow

VATICAN

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
Vatican (Italy)

W. GERMANY

The Counsellor (Com)
Embassy of India
262 Keslnzer Strasse Bonn

YUGOSLAVIA

The Counsellor
Embassy of India
Proleterskeh Brigade 9
Belgrade

ZAIRE REPUBLIC

The Ambassador
Embassy of India
18 B Avenue des Batetela
Kinshasa

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We apologise

to the other airlines...

for spoiling our passengers.

We're sorry. We pamper our passengers. Because we love doing it.

For other airlines, a passenger is a guest. But for us, he's a god.

Maybe that's why when our airhostess smiles a welcome, the warmth reaches her eyes. And when the food is served, there's always that extra touch—a rare pickle, an exotic new curry, a famous Indian raita.

We have a style and flair that people are accustomed to. And we don't blame them when they expect it of other airlines, and are disappointed.

So dear airlines, we are truly sorry, for making it so difficult for you.

AIR-INDIA

AI. 2437

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If
to

BOOKING OFFICES: **Hong Kong:** Hong Kong Hilton Hotel Arcade Tel. 5-247130, 5-247139 **Kowloon:** Peninsula Hotel
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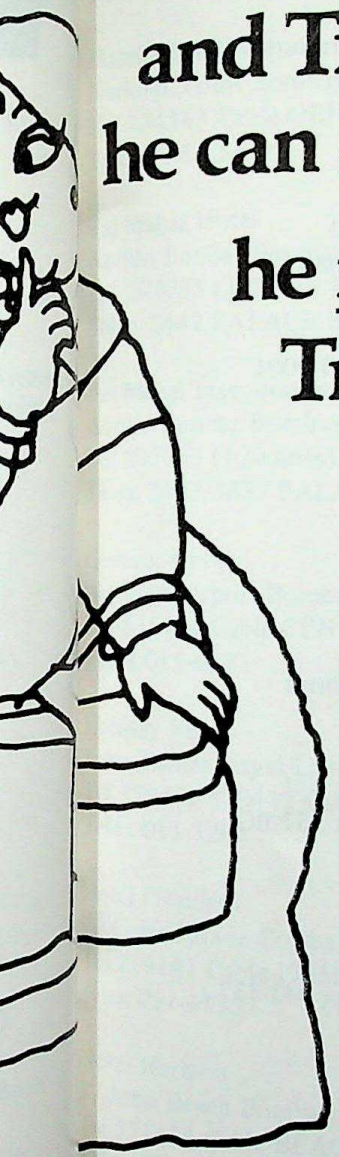
If dreaming up an arithmetical solution to passenger with excess baggage, and re-checking the Load and Trim Sheet of a Boeing, he can still balance the balance sheet...

he must be an Air-India Traffic Officer.



A mathematical wizard, our Airport Traffic Officer. Figures love him, always besiege him. And he's never quite himself without them. Kilos, grams, flight timings, 'jet-lags'.

Give him a late-arrival flight. And a dozen businessmen who've missed their onward connections and swear their allegiance to us! He knows they won't be in the mood for love, not with us—so what does he do— he helps to flex their elbows and all is whole again.

He will juggle figures with the ease of a computer. The total weight of his 747 won't be a kilo over 351,000 kgs. And when a family of tourists comes off a flight, not speaking a word of English or Hindi, his sign language will guide them to a hotel of their choice.

He is only doing his job. Because he knows there is someone very special on board.

You, dear passenger.

AIR-INDIA

YOUR COUNTRY'S AIRLINE

376 AIRPORT: Tel. 3-829558/9

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HOTELS IN INDIA

The listing is selective only. Hotels listed here offer services of or equivalent to 3 stars and higher.

AGRA

Hotel Mughul
Fatehabad Road, Agra
Tel 62709 Cable POWHATTEN
Telex 056-209

Clarks Shiraz
54 Taj Road Agra Cantt 282001
Tel 72421 Cable SHIRAZ
Telex 056-211

Holiday Inn
Taj Ganj Agra
Tel 64171 Cable HOLIDAY INN
Telex 056-202

AHMEDABAD

Cama Hotel
Khanpur Road, Ahmedabad 380001
Tel 25281-85 Cable HOTELCAMA
Telex LUCKAMA-AM-012-377

ALLAHABAD

Barnetts Hotel
14 Mahatma Gandhi Marg
Allahabad
Tel 2231, 2423 Cable BARNETS

AMRITSAR

Hotel Airlines
Cooper Road Amritsar
Tel 44545 Cable PANKAJ

AURANGABAD

Hotel Rama International
Plot R-3 Chikalthana Aurangabad
Tel 8340,8241 Cable HOTELRAMA

Aurangabad Hotel
Dr. R Prasad Road Aurangabad 431 001
Tel 2329, 2829 Cable TOURISM
Telex 074-229

BANGALORE

Hotel Ashoka
Kumara Krupa High Grounds B'lore-1

East West Hotel
Residency Road, Bangalore
Tel 53265 Cable LUXURY Telex 567 BG

West End Hotel
Race Course Road High Grounds
Bangalore-560001
Tel 29281 Cable WESTEND Telex 043-337

BARODA

Express Hotel
R C Dutt Road Baroda 390 005
Tel 66641 Telex 701-311

BHAVNAGAR

Hotel Apollo
Opp Central Bus Station Bhavnagar
Tel 5249 Cable APOLLO

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BHOPAL

Ramsons International
Hamidia Road Bhopal 462001
Tel 2299 Cable SETHIBROS

BOMBAY

Hotel Oberoi Sheraton
Nariman Point Bombay-400001
Tel 234343 Cable OBHOTEL
Telex 4153/54

Taj Mahal Hotel
Apollo Bunder Bombay 400001
Tel 297755 (120 lines) Cable PALACE
Telex 2442 PALACE BY

Taj Mahal Inter-continental
Apollo Bunder Bombay-400001
Tel 297755 (120 lines) Cable PALACE
Telex 2442/3837 PALACE BY

Centaur Hotel
Bombay Airport Bombay 400059
Tel 535431 Cable CENTAUR
Telex 011-4277

Holiday Inn
Juhu Turner Loyal Lane Bombay-54
Tel 579481 579417 Cable HOLIDAYINN
Telex 011-3266

Hotel President
90 Cuffe Parade Colaba Bombay-5
Tel 219141 Cable PIEMHOTELS
Telex 011-4135

Hotel Horizon
37 Juhu Beach Bombay 400054
Tel 571411 Cable BEACHREST
Telex 011-3018

Ambassador Hotel
Churchgate Extension Bombay-20
Tel 291131 (10 lines) Cable EMBASSY
Telex 011-2918

Sun-n-Sand
39 Juhu Beach, Bombay-54
Tel 571481 Cable SUNANDSAND
Telex 011-3282

Hotel Natraj
135 Netaji Subhash Road
Bombay-20
Tel 294161 Cable HOTELRAJA
Telex 2303

CALCUTTA

Oberoi Grand
15 Jawaharlal Nehru Road
Calcutta 700013
Tel 230181 (30 lines) OBHOTEL
Telex 7248 & 7854

Airport Hotel
Calcutta Airport, Calcutta-52
Tel 575111 Cable AIRPORTEL
Telex 021-2271

Hotel Hindusthan International
235/1 Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Rd,
Tel 442394 (12 lines) Cable MODERN
Telex 7164 CA

Ritz Continental Hotel
12 Jawaharlal Nehru Road
Calcutta-700013
Tel 232391 (10 lines) 236226
Cable RITZCONTE Telex CA 7418
FIRPOS

Park Hotel
17 Park Street, Calcutta 700016
Tel 248301 Cable PARKHOTEL
Telex CA 7159 PARK

CHANDIGARH

Hotel Oberoi Mount View
Sector 10 Chandigarh
Tel 24729, 26021 Cable OBHOTEL

COCHIN

Sealord Hotel
Shanmugham Road, Eranakulam
Cochin 682011
Tel 32682 (3 lines) Cable SEALORD
Telex CN 281

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Malabar Hotel
Willington Island Cochin 682003
Tel 63114 Cable COMFORT
Telex CN 281

Casino Hotel
Willington Island Cochin 682003
Tel 6641 Cable CASINO
Telex 046-314

COIMBATORE

Hotel Alankar
Ram Nagar Siva Samy
Coimbatore 641 009
Tel 26293 (6 lines) Cable ALANKAR
Telex CBE 042-330

DARJEELING

Oberoi Mount Everest
15 Gandhi Road
Darjeeling 734101
Tel 90 236 545 6
Cable OBHOTEL

Windamere Hotel
Observatory Hill
The Mall Darjeeling 734101
Tel 2841 2397
Cable WINDAMERE

DEHRA DUN

Hotel Madhuban
97 Rajpur Road, Dehra Dun
Tel 4094-97
Cable MADHUBAN

Hotel Majestic
11 Rajpur Road,
Dehra Dun
Tel 3239

NEW DELHI

Ashoka Hotel
50B Chanakyapuri, N. Delhi 110021
Telex 031-2567 Tel 370101 (80 lines)

Hotel Oberoi Inter-Continental
Dr. Zakir Hussain Road, N. Delhi 110003
Tel 286161 Cable INHOTELCOR
Telex 031-2372

Hotel Janpath
Janpath New Delhi 110001
Tel 383961 Cable RESTWELL
Telex 031-2468

Lodhi Hotel
Lala Lajpat Rai Marg,
N. Delhi 110001
Tel 619422 (15 lines) Cable LIVWELL
Telex Care 031-2468

Akbar Hotel
Chanakyapuri
New Delhi 110021
Tel 370251 Cable AKBOTEL
Telex 031-2863

Hotel Imperial
Janpath, N. Delhi 110001
Tel 311511 (15 lines) 38864 (5 lines)
Cable COMFORT
Telex HTL-IMP 3303

New Delhi Y.M.C.A. Tourist Hostel
Jai Singh Road, N. Delhi 110001
Tel 311915 (10 lines) 389821
Cable MANHOOD

Claridges Hotel
12 Aurangazeb Road N. Delhi 110 011
Tel 37021 (20 lines) Cable CLARIDGES
Telex 031-2518

Hotel Oberoi Maidens
7 Alipur Road Delhi 110006
Tel 221591 (9 lines) Cable OBMAIDENS
Telex 031-2703

Qutab Hotel
Off Sri Aurobindo Marg
N. Delhi-110029
Tel 698969
Cable QUTABOTEL
Telex 031-3637

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DHANBAD

Savoy Hotel & Restaurant
Rathore Mansion Dhanbad Bihar
Tel DHN 2521, 2522 Cable SAVOY
Telex 029-2123

DIGHA

Sea Hawk
Digha Midnapore District
W. Bengal
Tel Digha 35 46

ELURU

Hotel Madhulata
273/274 Govt. Hospital Road,
Eluru, Andhra Pradesh
Tel 678 Cable MADHULATA

GAUHATI

Hotel Belle Vue
M. G. Road, Gauhati 781 001
Tel 4225 4297 Cable HOTEL BELLEVUE

GOA

Fort Aguada Beach Resort
Sinquerim Goa
Tel 3401 (Via Panaji Exchange)
Cable FORT AGUADA Telex 019-257

Goa Woodlands Hotel
Miguel Loyola Furtado Road Margao, Goa
Tel 3121 (5 lines) Cable GOAWUDLAND

Keni's Hotel
18th June Road Panaji Road,
Tel 3412, 3027, 3575

GUNTUR

Hotel Sudarshan
Kothapet Main Road, Guntur (A.P)

GWALIOR

Hotel Gujri Mahal,
High Court Lane, Gwalior-1
Tel 23492-3 Cable GUJARIHOTEL

HARIHAR

Sangam Motel
PB No. 10 Harihar 577601 Tel 211212
Telex 286BG Cable SANGAMOTEL

HASSAN

Hassan Motel
Banglore-Manglore Road,
Hassan, Karnataka
Tel 8731 Cable TOURISM

HUBLI

Hubli Woodlands
Keshwapur Hubli 23
Tel 2246 Cable WOODLANDS

HYDERABAD/SECUNDERABAD

Hotel Nagarjuna
Bashir Bagh
Hyderabad
Tel 37201 (10 lines)
Cable MAGNIFIQUE

Hotel Parklane
115 Park Lane Secunderabad,
Hyderabad 50003
Tel 70143 Cable HIARCHEE

Hotel Annapurna
Nampally Station Road,
Hyderabad-500001
Tel 57431 Cable HOTELPURNA

Ritz Hotel
Hill Fort Palace, Hyderabad
Tel 33571 (7 lines)
Cable RITZ Telex 015-215

Bluemoon Hotel
Raj Bhavan Road Begumpet,
Hyderabad-500016
Tel 30136 (6 lines)
Cable BLUEMOON
Telex 015-315

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JABALPUR

Jackson's Hotel
Civil Lines Jabalpur (MP)
Tel 1320 (5 lines)
Cable JACKSON HOTEL

JAIPUR

Hotel Clarks Amer
Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, Jaipur
Tel 82216 Cable CLARKSAMER
Telex 036-276

Rambagh Palace Hotel
Bhawani Singh Road,
Jaipur 302 005
Tel 75141 (10 lines)
Cable RAMBAGH Telex 036-254

Rajasthan State Hotel
M I Road, Jaipur
Tel 74040, 75151-55

JAMMU

Jammu Motel
P.B 60 Ramnagar, Jammu 180001
Tel 5104, 3784 Cable TOURISM

JORHAT

Paradise Hotel
Solicitors Road, Jorhat
Tel 831-610
Cable PARADISE

JULLUNDUR

Hotel Skylark
Circuit House Road,
Jullundur City
Tel 5891,5682

KANPUR

Hotel Meghdoot
17/3B Mahatma Gandhi Road,
Kanpur
Tel 51141 (10 lines)
Cable MEGHOTEL
Telex KP 282

KODAIKANAL

Carlton Hotel
Lake Road Kodaikanal 624101
Tel 252 Cable CARLTON

KOTAH

Hotel Navrang
Civil Lines Kotah
Tel 466 Cable NAVRANG

KOTTAYAM

Hotel Ambassador
KK Road, Kottayam
Tel 3293, 3294
Cable AMBASSADOR

KOZHIKODE (Calicut)

Alkapuri Guest House
Jail Road Kozhikode 673002
Tel 73361 (6 lines)
Cable ALKAPURI
Telex KRISHNA CT 084-223

Beach Hotel
Beach Road, Kozhikode
Tel 73851 Cable BALCO

LUCKNOW

Carlton Hotel
Shahnajaf Road, Lucknow
Tel 24021 (5 lines) 25429
Cable CARLTON Telex 033-217

Hotel Clarks Avadh
8 M.G. Marg Hazratganj, Lucknow
Tel 20131 (7 lines)
Cable AVADH Telex 033-243

MADRAS

Taj Coromandel Hotel
5 Nungambakkam High Road,
Madras 600034
Tel 810441 Cable HOTELORIENT
Telex 041-7194

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Woodlands Hotel
1/23 Edward Elliots Road, Mylapore
Madras 600004
Tel 83111 (20 lines)
Cable WOODLANDS
Telex MS 7198

Hotel Chola
4/5 Cathedral Rd, Madras-600086
Tel 82093 Cable HOTELCHOLA
Telex 041-7200

Connemara Hotel
Binny's Road, Madras 600002
Tel 810051 Cable CONNEMARA
Telex MS 486

Savera Hotel
23A Edward Elliots Road, Mylapore
Madras 600004
Tel 810031 (20 lines) Cable SAVERA
Telex MS 662

Swagath Hotel
183 B Royapettah High School,
Madras 600014
Tel 810401 Cable SUBASWAGAT

Madras Hotel Ashoka
22 Pantheon Road Egmore,
Madras 600008
Tel 30101 (16 lines)
Cable HOTELASHOK
Telex 041-338

Hotel Dasaprakash
50 Poonamallee High Road
Madras-600084
Tel 661111 Cable DASPRAKASH
Telex 041-637

MADURAI

Pandyan Hotel
Race Course Madurai 625 002
Tel 26671 (5 lines)
Cable TEMPLECITY
Telex 044-214

MANGALORE

Summer Sands Beach Resort
Chotamangalore Ullal
(Near Mangalore)
Karnataka
Tel 253-284 (Ullal)
Cable SUMMERSAND ULLAL

MANIPAL

Valley View International Health Club
Manipal Karnataka
Tel 8225 (6 lines)
Cable VALLEYVIEW
Telex 082-243

MOUNT ABU

Palace Hotel
Bikaner Palace Mount Abu
Tel 21 Cable PALACE

MUSSOORIE

Savoy Hotel
Mussoorie
Tel 510, 601 Cable SAVOY

Hakman's Grand Hotel
The Mall
Mussoorie
Tel 559 Cable HAKMANS

MYSORE

Hotel Dasaprakash
Gandhi Square Mysore 570001
Tel 22821, 22887, 22925
Cable DASPRAKASH

Hotel Rajendra Vilas Imperial
Chamundi Hills,
Mysore
Tel 22050 Cable RAVIMP

Hotel Krishnarajasagar
P.O Krishnarajasagar, Mysore
Tel Belagula 22
Cable BRINDAVAN

Hotel Metropole
Jhansi Laxmibai Road
Mysore 570005
Tel 20681, 20871
Cable METROPOLE

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NAINITAL

Grand Hotel
The Mall Nainital
Tel 156 Cable GRAND

Swiss Hotel
Nainital
Tel 196 Cable SWISSHOTEL

OOTACAMUND

Hotel Dasaprakash
Ootacamund 1 Nilgris
Tel 2434-5 Cable DASPRAKASH

Savoy Hotel
Ootacamund
Tel 2572 Cable SAVOY

PATNA

Hotel Pataliputra
Beer Chand Patel Path Patna 800001
Tel 23467, 26270 Cable TOURISM
Telex HOTPAT PT 311

Hotel Satkar International
Fraser Road, Patna
Tel 23130 Cable SATKAR

PUNE (Poona)

Hotel Blue Diamond
11 Koregaon Road Pune 411001
Tel 27334, 27356
Cable BLUDIAMOND
Telex 014-369

Hotel Amir & Amer Al Asian
15 Connaught Road, Pune 411001
Tel 27371, 28897 Cable HOTELAMIR

Shalimar Hotel
12A Connaught Road, Pune 411001
Tel 28041/2

PURI

South Eastern Railway Hotel,
Puri
Tel 63 Cable SURF

QUILON

Hotel Karthika
Quilon
Tel 3761-63 Cable KARTHIKA

Hotel Neela
Quilon Cantonment, Quilon, Kerala
Tel 3616-18 Cable NEELOTEL

RAJAMUNDHRY

Panchvati Hotel
Pushkar Ghat G.N.T. Road
Rajamundhry
Tel 734 (7 lines) Cable PANCHVATI

RANCHI

South Eastern Railway Hotel
Ranchi
Tel 21945 Cable RESTFUL

SALEM

Hotel Dwarka
Five Road, Salem Tamil Nadu
Tel 3051 Cable HOTELDWARK

SHILLONG

Pinewood Hotel
Pinewood Shillong
Tel 3116, 3765 Cable PINEWOOD

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SIMLA

Hotel Oberoi Cecil
The Mall Simla
Tel 2073 Cable OBCECIL

Hotel Oberoi Clarkes
The Mall Simla
Tel 2971, 2941 Cable OBHOTEL

SRINAGAR

Hotel Broadway
Maulana Azad Road Srinagar 190001
Tel 5611 (10 lines)
Cable BROADWAY

Hotel Oberoi Palace
Srinagar
Tel-2231-34 Cable OBHOTEL
Telex 201

TIRUCHIRAPALLI

Hotel Sangam
Collector's Office Road,
Tiruchirapalli 620001
Tel 6779 Cable SANGU Telex TR 045-221

Hotel Aristo
2 Dindigul Road
Tiruchirapalli 620001
Tel 6555 (6 lines) 4511
Cable ARISTO

TRIVANDRUM

Mascot Hotel
Trivandrum 695 001
Tel 60720 (5 lines) Cable MASCOT
Telex MASCOT TV-229

Hotel Belair
Near Kovalam Beach
Agricultural College Road
Vellayani P.O. Trivandrum
Tel 3402, 3403
Cable ACBEE Trivandrum
Telex BELAIR TV 230

UDAIPUR

Lake Palace Hotel
Pichola Lake, Udaipur
Tel 440-1-2 Cable LAKEPALACE

Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel
Udaipur 313 001
Tel 4411-3 Cable TOURISM

State Hotel
Udaipur
Tel 2056-57
Cable ANANDBHAWAN

VARANASI

Clarks Hotel
The Mall Varanasi 221 001
Tel 62021 (3 lines) 52301
Cable CLARKOTEL

Varanasi Hotel
The Mall
Varanasi 221 001
Tel 52251 Cable TOURISM
Telex 054-205

VIJAYWADA

Hotel Manorama
Bunder Road Vijaywada 520 002
Tel 7221 Cable BLISS

VISHAKAPATNAM

Hotel Vikram
75 Fleet Road
Vishakapatnam 530 001
Tel 4821, 2064 Cable HOTVIK

Hotel Sun-N-Sea
Beach Road,
Visakhapatnam 530003
Tel 4333 (5 lines)
Cable SUNSEA Telex VM 230

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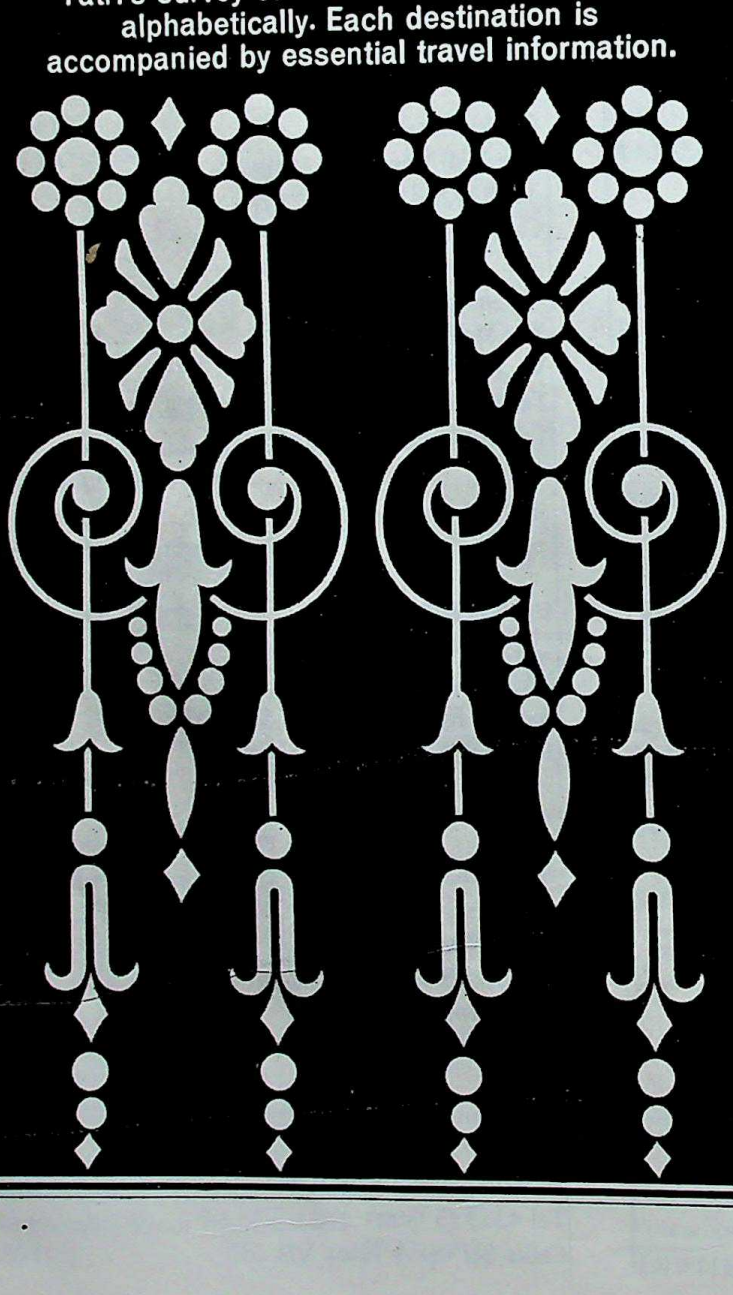
Fabulous Palace Hotels

A gracious way of life endures in the palace hotels of India. Splendid in setting whether in fortified cities or beside the sea, these former princely homes have great elegance. Some are forest hideaways or summer retreats, others are magnificent and luxurious.

Yatri's survey of Palace Hotels is arranged alphabetically. Each destination is accompanied by essential travel information.



BIKANER, RAJASTHAN

SANDSTONE AND ITALIAN MARBL

LALGARH PALACE HOTE

A fortified desert city, Bi was once on the caravan route Africa and West Asia to this try. Maharaja Sri Ganga Singh his palace here at the turn c century. Made of red sandsto is exquisitely carved, and part is now a hotel. The regal life in the gracious suites with ric nishings and high ceilings, the tiled in Italian marble.

All rooms with attached Room coolers can be provided

Facilities

Billiards, conference hall t 300, golf, squash at Sadul Clu the hotel, tennis.

Further information

Manager, Lalgarh Palace Bikaner Tel 312

How to get there

Bikaner is 469 km by rail Delhi and 457 km by road via tak-Bhiwani-Churu-Ratangarh H. No. 11.

BIKANER, RAJASTHAN

IN A WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

GAJNER PALACE HOTEL

Romantic and hidden in forest is the Gajner Palace The woods are in fact a w sanctuary and the hotel was hunting lodge. Cupped in the is a lake where the Imperial Grouse of Siberia is a visitor winter. An unforgettable ence is to see the swoop of b they skim the lake and rise Wildlife: the handsome black the delicate chinkara, nilgai bull), wild boar. Birds: pea bee eater, blue jay, paradis catcher, crow-pheasant, duck and mallard. All rooms with ed baths. Room coolers can b vided.

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Facilities
Billiards, golf and clay pigeon shooting. The owner, the former ruler Karni Singh, is a renowned marksman.

Further information
Manager, Gajner Palace Hotel, Bikaner Tel 142

How to get there
Gajner is 32 km from Bikaner.

What to see
The Fort Built by Raja Rai Singh (1571-1611) an outstanding general at the Mughal Emperor Akbar's court, this picturesque fort is distinguished by 37 pavilions, standing high above defensive walls. A long line of balconies and oriel windows of varying designs lend it a graceful dignity. Kiosks and towers at intervals give the structure a functional strength.

A heritage of sculpture is to be seen in the Bikaner Museum like this 11th century statue.

Museum Rich in Gupta (4th-8th century) and Kushan (1st-3rd century) terracottas and sculpture of the later classical age (12th-15th century). An excellent collection of the Bikaner school of miniature painting. This style absorbed the elegance of the Mughal school but avoided its rigid formalism in a sensitive use of subject and colour. A section on local arts and crafts.

Camel Breeding Farm The government breeding farm for camels, set amongst sand dunes.

Deshnoke Temple On the Bikaner-Jodhpur road is the temple of Deshnoke, dedicated to Karni Devi, the tutelary deity of the Rajas, in the attributes of Durga. There is beautiful marble carving at the main gate and attractive work on the gold and silver doors of the temple.

CHAIL, HIMACHAL PRADESH

HIMALAYAN HOLIDAY

PALACE HOTEL

Chail, 2245 metres, on a spur opposite Simla, is surrounded by deep woods affording long pine-scented walks. A lovely view from Chail of the valley with the Sutlej river flowing through. Chail was the summer capital of the princely Patiala family.

Fishing (mahaseer is favourite), trekking and bird watching make Chail a tranquil hill resort.

The rooms are well appointed and most have attached baths.

Further information
Tourist Officer, Chail.

How to get there
Chail is 45 km from Simla via Kufri and 86 km from Kalka via Kandaghat. Bus and taxi services are available. Simla and Kalka are connected by rail to major cities.

GWALIOR, MADHYA PRADESH

BY THE GREAT FORT

USHA KIRAN PALACE HOTEL

Usha Kiran Palace was built by the Scindia family who ruled over central India. Gwalior has a mighty fort and is conveniently close to the sculptured temples of Khajuraho. It is a good base for touring the attractions of Madhya Pradesh.

The rooms are well appointed, some air conditioned. All have attached baths, running hot and cold water, telephone and radio. There is a bar as well.

Further information
Manager, Usha Kiran Palace Hotel, Gwalior Tel 22049, 23453

How to get there
Gwalior is connected by air with Bhopal and Delhi. It is on the main Bombay-Delhi and Madras-Delhi rail routes. Gwalior is on the Bombay-Agra highway, 320 km from Delhi.

Regular bus services connect Gwalior with Delhi, Agra, Bhopal, Jhansi, Rewa via Chhattarpur for Khajuraho.

What to see
Fort Spectacular in dimension, the Fort is one of the finest in India. Its massive ramparts are decorated with blue tile inlay. Cut into the sheer rock face are monolithic statues. In the Fort are:

Teli-ka-Mandir A 9th century temple, representing a synthesis of the principal schools of architecture.

Sas-Bahy Temple 11th century temple, dedicated to Vishnu.

Man Mandir A 15th century palace; a striking example of Hindu palace architecture; decorated with blue tiles.

Gujari Mahal and Archaeological Museum Gujari Mahal, now a museum, was built by Raja Man Singh for his favourite queen, Mriganayani, who was famed for her beauty and valour. The Archaeological Museum contains Brahmanical and Jain sculptures, inscriptions and miniature paintings.

Tombs of Tansen and Mohammed Ghaus Tansen the musician was one of the "nine gems" in the court of the Mughal Emperor Akbar. Mohammed Ghaus was a saint venerated by the Emperors Babar and Akbar. His tomb is a noble specimen of early Mughal architecture.

JAIPUR, RAJASTHAN

IN THE PINK CITY

RAMBAGH PALACE HOTEL

A city washed in tints of rose, Jaipur was planned by Maharaja Jai Singh in 1728.

The Rambagh Palace was built by Maharaja Sawai Ram Singh some 200 years ago as a hunting-lodge on the outskirts of the city which

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was then surrounded by forest. When Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II made this palace his residence in the 1920s, a new wing was added to it. Together, they form Rambagh Palace Hotel. A royal splendour still endures. The suites are luxurious, the Maharaja and Maharani suites being especially lavish.

Most guest rooms are air conditioned with attached baths, running hot and cold water, telephone.

Facilities Bar decorated with polo trophies, banquet hall, convention hall, golf, riding, squash, and swimming pool.

Further information

Manager, Rambagh Palace Hotel Jaipur Tel 75141

How to get there

Jaipur is connected by air, rail and road. Air services from Delhi, Bombay, Agra, Jodhpur and Udaipur. Convenient rail and bus services from Delhi and other cities. It is 326 km from Delhi via Alwar, and 256 km on N. H. No. 8.

What to see

Amber Palace 11 km On a spur of the Aravalli ranges. A mighty citadel with a steep ascent. The main buildings were constructed by Raja Man Singh (1592-1615), Commander-in-Chief of the emperor Akbar. A paved road leads upto the victory gate, Jaipol. One can ride up on a caparisoned elephant accompanied by a folk minstrel playing the typical Rajasthani string instrument, the *ravanhatha*.

Galta The springs here are said to have healing properties. Temples and pools dot the hilly area. En route see Sisodia Rani Ka Bagh, a terraced garden with fountains.

Gaitor Cenotaphs of the royal family, set against a rugged hill.

Jal Mahal A water palace, discovered when a mound was excavated and the Jal Mahal appeared.

City Palace 1728. Houses a collection of costumes and jewellery.

Hawa Mahal Palace of Winds, built by Mahadeo Singh I (1751-68) for the ladies of the harem to watch processions in seclusion.

Jantar Mantar An observatory constructed in 1718, for astronomical and mathematical calculations.

JODHPUR, RAJASTHAN

DESERT SPLENDOUR

OBEROI JODHPUR PALACE HOTEL

Jodhpur wears the strength of a desert land. The city is guarded by a massive stronghold that dominates the desert. The hotel, earlier known as Umaid Bhavan Palace, is spectacularly built in sandstone. Designed by British architects it was perhaps the largest private residence in the world. Started in the early twenties it took 16 years to complete. It is centrally air conditioned with a unique system of evaporative cooling. Luxuriously furnished, the regal ambience is enhanced by martial memorabilia, portraits and objtes d'art. There is a fantastic underground all-weather swimming pool and a banquet hall which seats 250 persons at a single table. Guests can also avail of a special train tour in the former Maharaja's air conditioned saloons to the historic city of Jaisalmer. All rooms have attached baths. Eighty rooms are being added to make a total of 140 rooms and suites. Opening shortly.

Facilities Bar, billiards, golf and riding.

Further information

Department of Sales & Marketing Oberoi Hotels (India) Pvt. Ltd. 7 Alipur Road, Delhi 110006 221411

How to get there

Jodhpur is connected by a Delhi, Bombay, Jaipur and pur.

Convenient rail connectio Delhi, Bombay, Jaipur and major cities.

What to see

Balsamand Lake and Pa km A pleasant spot overlo fine artificial lake. Well laid and a summer palace on its b

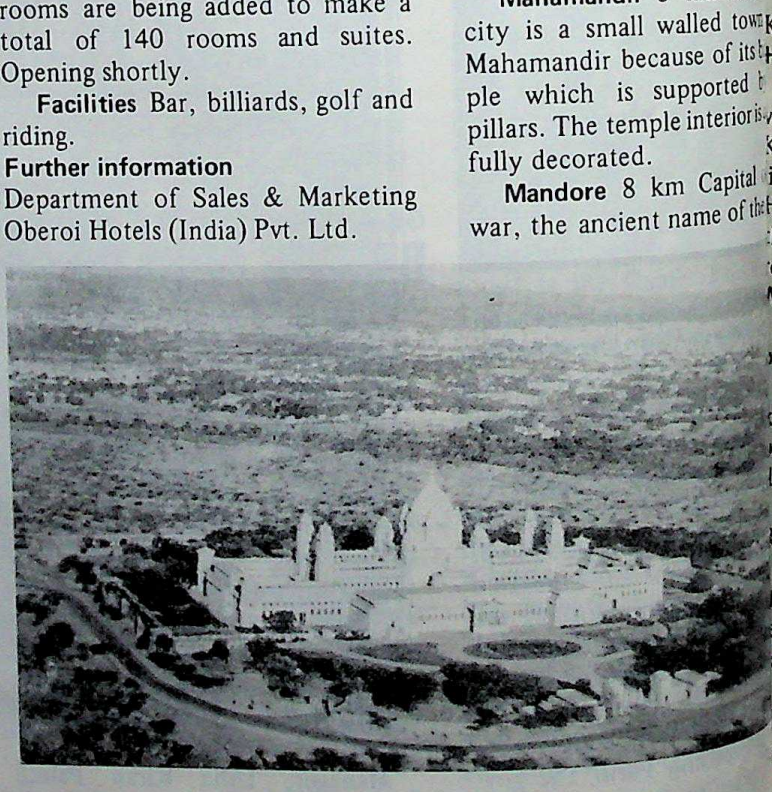
Fort 6 km The fort do the city. It is situated on an rocky eminence. Beautifully panels, latticed windows pierced screens of red sands was built in 1459 by Jodha Raja Rainmal, when the capital of Mandore was Mewar and, when won ba considered too vulnerab safety.

Jaswant Thara 6 km A c of Maharaja Jaswant Singh white marble. The genealog rulers of Jodhpur and th traits are displayed here.

Kailana Lake and Palace A popular picnic spot.

Mahamandir 3 km Outs city is a small walled tow Mahamandir because of its ple which is supported pillars. The temple interior is fully decorated.

Mandore 8 km Capital war, the ancient name of th



The Umaid Bhavan Palace, Jodhpur, is spectacular.

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before Jodhpur was founded. Cenotaphs of the former rulers of the state here are raised on high terraces with soaring spires and are exquisitely sculptured. Sunken gardens, and trees of palm, eucalyptus, bottle-brush and flame-of-the-forest plus peacocks and monkeys make Mandore a lovely picnic spot.

KOTAH, RAJASTHAN

BY THE RIVER CHAMBAL

HOTEL BRIJRAJ BHAWAN

The river Chambal flows through Kotah, and carves its way through ravines and woods. Kotah is girdled with places of picturesque beauty like Bundi, renowned for its paintings and temples.

Brijraj Bhawan, a 19th century palace, stands on the banks of the river from where there is a panoramic view. One may go boating, birdwatch, fish or view wildlife at the Dara sanctuary.

Some rooms are air conditioned and all have attached baths.

Further information

Manager, Hotel Brijraj Bhawan, Kotah

How to get there

There are convenient train services from Delhi and Bombay. Kotah is on the main Delhi-Bombay line, a day's journey from Delhi. Hotel transport will meet visitors at the Railway Station. 560 km by road from Delhi.

What to see

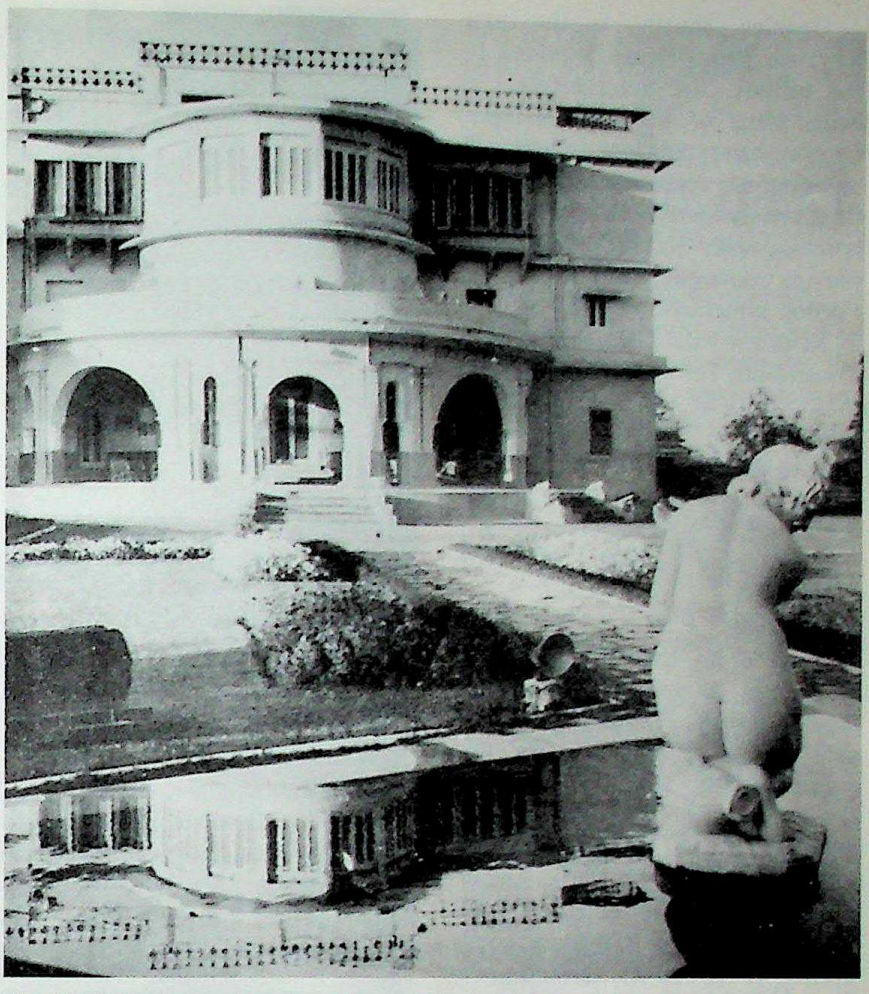
Chambal River Cruise by motor boat.

Dara Wildlife Sanctuary A 78 sq km forest, formerly a royal hunting preserve. Wildlife includes spotted deer, wild boar, tiger and bear.

Museum A good collection of Ramgarh sculpture.

Bundi 35 km A former princely state, known for its medieval architecture and the Bundi school of painting.

Baroli 42 km 9th century temple, among the most ancient and beautiful in Rajasthan...



Hotel Brijraj Bhawan, Kotah stands on the banks of the river Chambal.

KOVALAM, KERALA

HALCYON CASTLE

KOVALAM PALACE HOTEL

The state of Kerala wears many shades of green. The flash of waterways and creeks as they lead to the sea, the fronds of palm and plantain that blend into a cool yet exotic landscape. Travellers from many lands once came here. The long ships of King Solomon, Marco Polo, and more recently the Dutch and Portuguese, whose traces can be seen in Cochin.

Watch the fascinating dance-drama of Kathakali or take a cruise up winding waterways from Quilon to Alleppey. See the unusual fishing nets the Chinese gave to Kerala or the white-washed spires of Syrian churches as they rise among the forest. Go to the elephant sanctuary at Periyar or laze in the sun on Kerala's beaches.

On this southwestern coast lies the sheltered bay of Kovalam. The Rajas of Travancore built a small lodge here and named it Halcyon Castle. Built of grey stone it stands on an eminence surveying the sea. The air rises mild and balmy from the sea and whispers through the coconut groves that surround Kovalam Palace Hotel. The beach is secluded, palm shaded. All rooms with attached baths, hot and cold water.

Close by is Kovalam Grove a beach village of 40 air conditioned cottages. Each cottage has twin beds, attached bath, kitchenette, private sundeck, telephone and channel music.

Facilities Aquatic sports, car hire, beach centre with bar, restaurant and shopping. There is also a snack bar, swimming pool and theatre for Kathakali dance performances. A Yoga centre offers traditional oil massages.

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Opening shortly is the new Kovalam Palace Hotel. Moulded to the hillside, the hotel offers 176 beds, some of them in cottages. Centrally air conditioned, there will be a roof top restaurant, bar, coffee shop and swimming pool. When the hotel is ready Halcyon Castle will provide conference facilities.

Further information

Kovalam Palace Hotel, Kovalam Trivandrum Tel 4855 Cable TOURISM KOVALAM VIZHINJAM Telex TV 216

How to get there

Kovalam is 16 km from Trivandrum, which is connected by air, rail and road to major cities of India.

What to see

Trivandrum, the capital of Kerala, is built on seven hills. The Padmanabhaswami Temple here has gate towers called Gopurams, decorated with stone and gilded finials. See the Chitralayam art museum's Rajput, Moghul and Tanjore paintings and works from China, Japan, Tibet and Bali. And modern Indian paintings. A good bronze collection at Trivandrum's museum.

The Kovalam Grove beach resort in Kerala.

MOUNT ABU, RAJASTHAN

PEACOCKS AND A LAKE

PALACE HOTEL

Situated in luxuriantly forested hills Mount Abu (1220 metres) was the summer hideaway of the maharajas of Bikaner. Their palace, built in the early years of the century, encompasses a lake and terraced viewpoints.

Peacock and pheasant make their home in these woods, enchanting for bird watchers. The palace overlooks the superb marble temples of Dilwara.

All rooms are attractively furnished with attached baths.

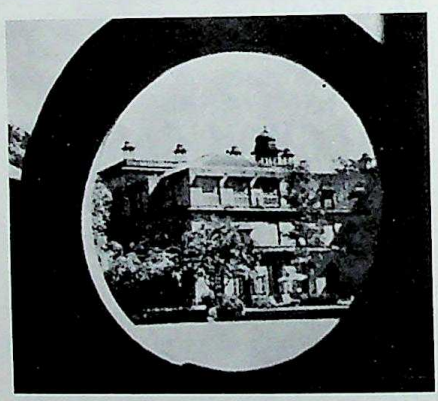
Facilities Badminton, billiards and tennis.

Further information

Manager, Palace Hotel, Mount Abu

How to get there

Mount Abu is accessible by road from either Bombay and Ahmedabad in the west or Jaipur and Delhi in the north. Abu Road railway station is 30 km from Abu and 185 km from Ahmedabad.



The Palace Hotel, Mount Abu.

What to see

Dilwara Temples Jain temples amidst a mango grove on a hill.

Achalgarh Fort 8 km Built in the 14th century by Rana Kumbha of Mewar. A temple, dedicated to Achaliswar, Lord Shiva, built in 1412.

The Kantinath Jain Temple, built in 1513, houses a gold plated image.

Nakki Lake Not far from Dilwara, the lake is studded with small islets.

MYSORE, KARNATAKA

POMP AND PAGEANTRY

LALITHA MAHAL PALACE HOTEL

The rulers of the former Mysore were celebrated for pomp and pageantry. It abounds in buildings that gracious way of life. Built 1935, ITDC's Lalitha Maha Hotel, was once a royal house; it stands like a snow the foot of the Chamundi H

Furnished with rich carp antiques, the rooms and su regal in setting, with baths, running hot and cold

Facilities Billiards, banq conference hall, mini-go tennis.

Further information

Divisional Manager (Ma India Tourism Developme poration, Jeevan Vihar, ment Street, New Delhi Tel Cable TOURISM

How to get there

Nearest airport Bangalore

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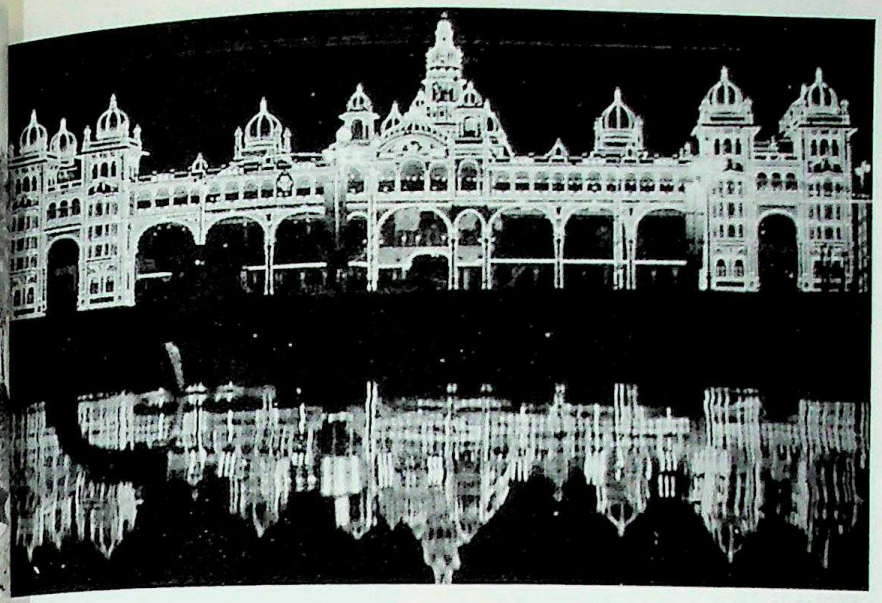

Illuminations in the city of Mysore at Dussehra festival.

The Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel is the ideal base for touring the attractions of Mysore.

What to see

Bandipur Sanctuary 80 km Wild elephant, bison, tiger, sloth bear.

Brindavan Gardens 19 km These gardens are spectacularly illuminated.

Chamundi Hill 13 km The Chamundeswari temple atop the hill has a huge monolithic Nandi bull.

Srirangapatna 16 km The island fortress of Tippu Sultan the 18th century ruler, has pavilions, mosques and temples.

SARISKA, RAJASTHAN

FOREST RETREAT

SARISKA PALACE HOTEL

In the midst of the Sariska wildlife sanctuary near Alwar, is the Sariska Palace Hotel. It was built by the Alwar rulers who were noted for their palaces. Sariska offers a blend of history, wildlife and scenic beauty.

The foundation of the palace was laid by the Duke of Connaught and it was formerly called the Duke of Connaught Palace. The building has an interesting facade of turrets and arches.

All rooms have attached baths, running hot and cold water.

Facilities Billiards, table tennis and tennis.

Further information

The Manager, Sariska Palace Hotel, 20 Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi 110011 Tel 617827

How to get there

Sariska is 195 km by road from Delhi, 115 km from Jaipur and 35 km from Alwar. Nearest airport is Jaipur. Nearest railhead is Alwar. Regular bus services from Alwar and Jaipur.

What to see

Alwar 35 km The Fort and the Museum are particularly interesting. The latter has a fine collection of Persian and Arabic manuscripts, illuminated texts and an armoury.

Sariska Wildlife Sanctuary Wildlife includes tiger, panther, blue bull, boar, sambar, spotted deer, and birds such as grey and black partridge, sand-grouse, rock grouse.

PALITANA, GUJARAT

ON TEMPLED HILLS

PALITANA PALACE HOTEL

Temples rise in tiers on the hillside. With ornate and sculpted spires they seem to draw the eye inexorably upwards. On Palitana's Satrunjaya hill stand these shrines of the Jain faith. The Palitana Palace Hotel here blends the luxuries of a bygone era with the comforts of modern living. One may swim in an indoor pool, go boating, play tennis or ride.

All rooms have attached baths, running hot and cold water.

Further information

Manager, Palitana Palace Hotel Palitana Tel 56

How to get there

Palitana, in the western state of Gujarat, is 48 km from Bhavnagar and 208 km from Ahmedabad.

What to see

About 70 Jain temples dating back to the 10th and 11th centuries, amidst lush green forests. Satrunjaya 2 km from Palitana, has a lovely hilltop view.

SRINAGAR, JAMMU AND KASHMIR

THE FABLED VALLEY

OBEROI PALACE HOTEL

Srinagar is the gateway to the mountain valley of Kashmir. Cupped in the Himalayas, Srinagar's

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lakes. Moghul gardens and picturesque setting are captivating. And there are the attractions of shopping for fabulous Kashmiri handicrafts.

Maharaja Hari Singh built his palace on a spur overlooking the Dal lake. A popular avenue winds up to the palace that is shaded by magnificent plane trees.

The palace is elegantly furnished, especially with Kashmir carpets. All rooms have attached baths, running hot and cold water, channel music, telephone.

Facilities Banquet room, bar, conference room for 50, golf and transport to the city.

Further information

Manager, Oberoi Palace Hotel Srinagar Tel 2231-34

Oberoi Intercontinental Reservation Offices at Bombay, Calcutta, New Delhi and Madras.

How to get there

Srinagar is connected by air with Delhi. Railhead: Jammu Tawi, connecting bus services.

What to see

Srinagar and its environs abound in lakes and gardens. The mountain hamlets of Gulmarg and Pahalgam are other attractions.

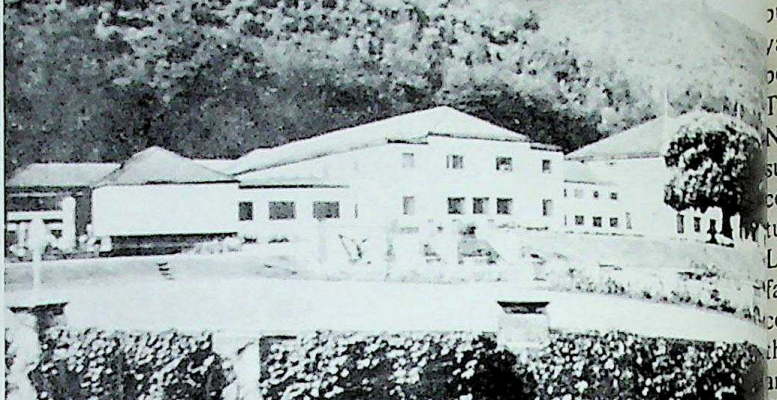
Chashma Shahi 9 km The Royal Spring. Completed in 1632 by the Mughal Emperor, Shahjahan, and initially planned and laid out by Jahangir. It is the smallest of the Mughal gardens and the spring water is said to possess medicinal properties.

Nishat Bagh 12 km Rising from the Dal Lake in terraces of flower beds and cascades, it was laid out by Empress Nur Jahan's brother in 1634.

Shalimar Bagh 15 km Built by Emperor Jahangir, for his wife Nur Jahan, it is a beautiful garden of vistas and shallow terraces. A Son et Lumiere show at the Shalimar gardens.

Verinag 80 km Springs, reputed to be the chief source of river Jhelum.

Lakes Alpather, Anchar, Dal, Gangabal, Kokarsar, Kounsarnag, Krishnasar, Manasbal, Marsar, Sheshnag, Tarsar, Tulian, Vishnusar, Wular.



The Oberoi Palace Hotel, Srinagar, is an excellent base for discovering the delights of the city.

UDAIPUR, RAJASTHAN

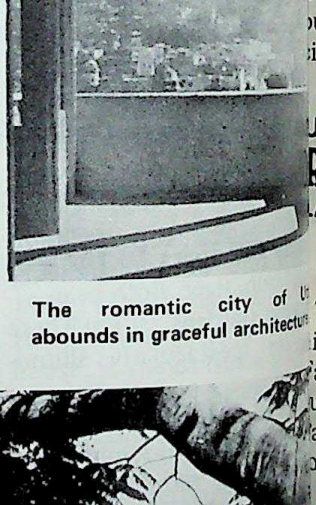
ROMANCE AND LUXURY

LAKE PALACE HOTEL

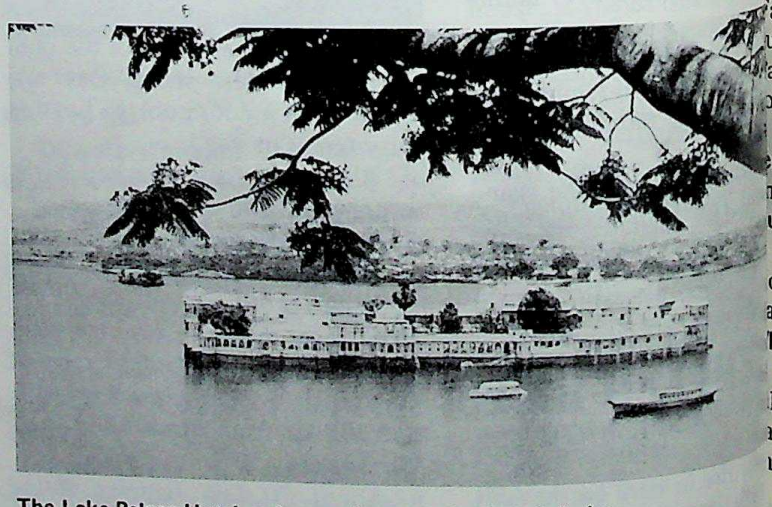
The personality of Udaipur is shaped by its romantic setting: shimmering lakes and fine palaces give this city, founded 400 years ago, a delicate air.

The Lake Palace, built 200 years ago as one of the palaces of the Maharana of Udaipur, is today a luxury hotel on the blue waters of Pichola Lake.

The rooms and sultes are characteristically decorated and have enticing names such as Sarvaritu Vilas, the Suite for All Seasons. The



The romantic city of Udaipur abounds in graceful architecture.



The Lake Palace Hotel, a dream afloat on the Pichola Lake.

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palace's most extensive suite, it is built around a large garden courtyard with its own marble swimming pool. Chandra Prakash, Moonlight Terrace, is a penthouse. Sajjan Niwas, Maharana Sajjan Singh's suite, has walls and ceilings decorated with frescoes in 19th century Rajasthan style. Kamal Mahal, Lotus Palace, is furnished with fabrics specially embroidered in cool pastel colours to complement the lotus theme. Some other suites are Rang Mahal, Khush Mahal and Sharad Poornima. All rooms are air conditioned with attached baths, running hot and cold water, channel music, telephone.

Facilities Banquet hall, bar, boating, convention facilities, folk dances, open air theatre, shopping arcade and a swimming pool.

Further information

Manager, Lake Palace Hotel, Udaipur Tel 440-1-2

Hotel Reservation Service, Chanderlok Building, Janpath New Delhi Tel 44655 Telex 2117

How to get there

Udaipur is connected by air with Delhi, Bombay, Jaipur and Jodhpur. Rail connections to major cities.

UDAIPUR, RAJASTHAN

ROYAL LEGACY

LAXMI VILAS PALACE HOTEL

Laxmi Vilas Palace was built in 1754. It is situated on a terraced hillside, overlooking the city and Fateh Sagar lake. Once a royal guest house, ITDC's Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel today combines a royal legacy with modern comfort.

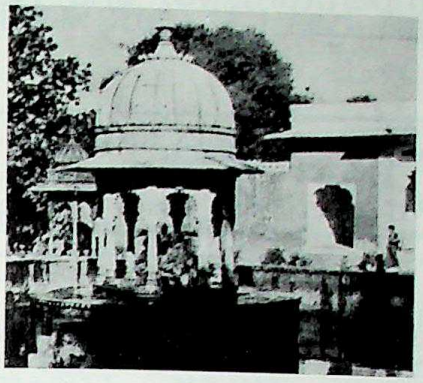
Facilities Banquet hall, bar, conference room, car rental and tours, and restaurant.

Further information

Manager, Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel, Udaipur 313001 Tel 13 Cable TOURISM

What to see

Fateh Sagar 4 km This beautiful lake, built in 1754 by Maharana Fateh Singh, is surrounded by hills on three sides. Bordering the lake is the Fateh Sagar drive, a winding road running along the serpentine shores of the lake.



A pavilion in the ornamental garden, Saheliyon ki Bari, Udaipur.

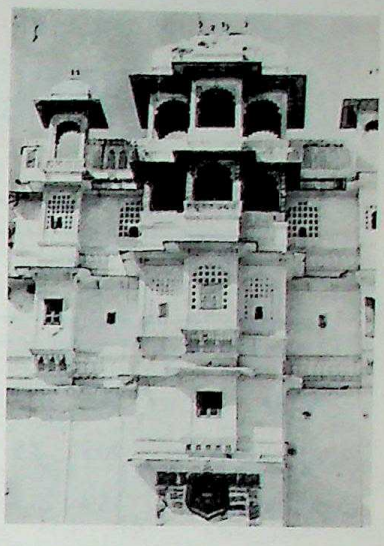
City Palace Overlooks the lake, has sparkling tile and mirror inlays.

Saheliyon ki Bari An ornamental park dedicated to the maids of honour.

Jagdish Temple A fine temple, impressively carved, built in 1651.

Jag Mandir An island palace of sandstone surrounded by trees on Lake Pichola. From times immemorial flocks of parakeets fly in every evening to nest here.

Eklingji Temple 22 km The celebrated temple of Eklingji, the tutelary divinity of the Maharanas of Mewar, is built of white marble and has an elaborate pillared hall. At the time of their enthronement, the Maharanas were invested with the insignia of royalty at this temple.

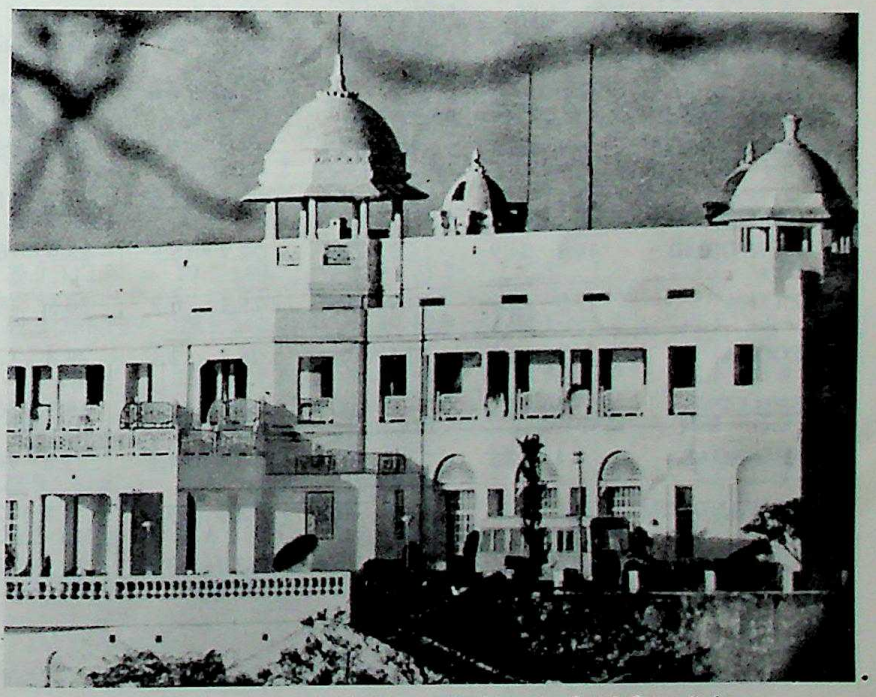


Balconies rise in harmony at the City Palace, Udaipur.

Ranakpur Temples 139 km The Jain Chou Mukha temple has eighty domes supported by 1444 columns engraved with images.

Shrinathji Temple 48 km A simple shrine which has wells for storing oblations.

Jaisamand Wildlife Sanctuary 50 km Species: panther, spotted deer, wild boar, gazelle.



The palace is built on a terraced hillside overlooking the Fateh Sagar Lake.

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Average Temperature (℃) and Rainfall (MM)

	JAN		FEB		MARCH		APRIL		MAY		JUNE	
	°C	mm	°C	mm	°C	mm	°C	mm	°C	mm	°C	mm
AGRA	14.8	16.2	18.0	8.8	23.8	10.9	29.7	5.3	34.5	10.0	35.0	60.0
AHMEDABAD	20.3	3.9	22.7	0.3	27.1	0.9	31.3	1.9	33.5	4.5	32.7	100.0
ALLAHABAD	16.4	20.2	19.1	22.2	25.1	14.3	30.7	4.8	34.7	8.2	34.3	101.7
BANGALORE	20.9	3.3	23.1	10.2	25.7	6.1	27.3	45.7	26.9	116.5	24.3	80.1
BARODA	20.5	2.0	22.5	2.4	26.6	0.7	30.8	2.9	33.4	4.1	32.1	114.8
BOMBAY	24.3	2.0	24.9	1.1	26.9	0.4	28.7	2.8	30.1	16.0	29.1	520.3
CALCUTTA	20.2	13.8	23.0	24.2	27.9	26.5	30.7	42.7	31.1	120.6	30.4	259.1
DARJEELING	6.1	21.7	7.7	26.7	11.3	52.4	14.4	109.0	15.7	187.1	17.0	522.3
GAUHATI	17.5	11.4	19.5	18.3	23.3	53.4	25.9	125.9	26.9	273.6	28.1	293.4
HYDERABAD	21.6	1.7	23.9	11.4	27.4	13.4	30.3	24.1	32.5	30.0	29.1	107.4
INDORE	17.9	8.4	19.9	1.1	24.5	3.5	29.1	3.5	32.3	13.2	30.1	147.1
JAIPUR	15.1	14.0	18.1	8.4	23.2	8.6	28.7	4.2	33.2	10.0	33.3	54.0
JAMMU	13.3	71.3	15.8	59.4	20.6	57.0	26.8	25.2	32.4	17.0	34.1	60.9
JAMSHEDPUR	19.3	14.1	21.7	28.3	26.7	23.8	31.2	25.4	33.4	68.8	31.7	217.5
LUCKNOW	16.1	23.7	18.9	17.2	24.6	9.2	30.1	6.4	33.9	11.7	33.7	93.9
MADRAS	24.5	23.8	25.9	6.8	27.9	15.1	30.5	24.7	32.7	51.7	32.5	52.6
MUSSOORIE	6.3	66.4	7.8	66.9	11.7	63.5	16.5	29.5	19.9	45.1	20.3	188.5
MYSORE	22.3	2.8	24.7	5.5	26.9	12.0	27.7	67.6	26.9	156.9	24.5	60.5
NEW DELHI	14.3	24.9	16.9	21.8	22.7	16.5	28.6	6.8	33.5	7.9	34.3	65.0
PATNA	17.3	21.1	19.9	20.2	25.7	6.7	30.5	8.2	32.5	28.3	31.9	139.0
POONA	21.3	1.9	23.1	0.3	26.5	3.1	29.3	17.6	29.9	34.7	27.5	102.8
SHILLONG	9.5	15.2	11.7	28.5	16.0	59.4	18.9	136.4	19.6	325.4	20.5	544.6
SRINAGAR	1.1	72.8	3.5	72.3	8.5	104.1	13.3	78.1	17.9	63.4	21.7	35.6
TRIVANDRUM	26.8	20.1	27.3	20.3	28.3	43.5	28.7	122.1	28.3	248.6	26.5	331.2
UDAIPUR	16.0	9.0	18.7	4.4	23.7	3.5	28.1	2.6	31.7	4.6	30.6	87.0

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Average Temperature (°C) and Rainfall (MM)

	JULY		AUGUST		SEPT		OCT		NOV		DEC	
	°C	mm	°C	mm	°C	mm	°C	mm	°C	mm	°C	mm
AGRA	30.9	210.2	29.3	263.2	28.9	151.5	26.2	23.5	20.6	2.1	16.1	3.7
AHMEDABAD	29.5	316.3	28.2	213.3	28.7	162.8	28.4	13.1	24.5	5.4	21.1	0.7
ALLAHABAD	30.1	274.8	29.1	333.1	29.0	195.1	26.5	39.7	21.1	6.9	17.1	6.3
BANGALORE	23.2	116.6	23.3	147.1	23.3	142.7	23.2	184.9	21.7	54.3	20.5	16.2
BARODA	28.9	365.8	28.1	263.5	28.3	185.5	27.5	34.5	23.9	9.0	21.2	0.2
BOMBAY	27.5	709.5	27.1	439.3	27.4	297.0	28.3	88.0	27.5	20.6	25.9	2.2
CALCUTTA	29.1	300.6	29.1	306.3	29.2	289.7	27.9	160.2	23.9	34.9	20.6	3.2
DARJEELING	17.6	712.9	17.6	572.5	17.3	418.5	15.1	116.1	11.3	14.2	8.1	5.0
GAUHATI	28.9	301.5	29.0	263.0	28.7	190.1	26.3	90.1	22.3	11.5	18.7	5.0
HYDERABAD	26.1	165.0	25.8	146.9	25.7	163.3	25.1	70.8	22.3	24.9	20.6	5.5
INDORE	26.1	316.0	25.1	266.5	25.1	220.9	24.1	48.4	20.5	22.1	18.3	2.7
JAIPUR	29.9	193.2	28.1	239.0	28.1	89.8	25.7	19.3	20.5	8.4	16.7	4.2
JAMMU	30.7	320.7	29.1	319.1	28.6	150.8	25.4	29.5	19.8	7.9	15.2	29.5
JAMSHEDPUR	28.9	347.2	28.7	356.1	28.7	215.4	26.9	76.2	22.3	16.7	19.2	1.8
LUCKNOW	30.1	299.0	29.3	301.8	29.1	181.7	26.3	40.3	21.0	1.4	16.9	6.1
MADRAS	30.7	83.5	30.1	124.3	29.7	118.0	28.1	267.0	25.9	308.7	24.6	39.1
MUSSOORIE	18.3	726.5	17.9	754.7	17.1	323.2	14.9	64.8	11.6	7.7	8.5	31.3
MYSORE	23.5	71.9	23.7	80.1	24.0	116.3	24.0	179.9	22.9	66.6	21.7	14.7
NEW DELHI	31.3	211.1	29.9	172.9	29.3	149.7	25.9	31.2	20.3	1.2	15.7	5.2
PATNA	29.8	265.8	29.3	307.1	29.3	242.5	27.5	62.8	22.5	5.7	18.3	2.4
POONA	24.9	186.8	24.6	106.4	25.0	127.3	25.5	91.9	22.9	37.0	21.1	4.9
SHILLONG	21.1	394.9	20.9	334.6	20.1	314.9	17.3	220.2	13.3	34.9	10.5	6.3
SRINAGAR	24.6	61.0	23.9	62.8	20.5	31.8	14.1	28.7	7.7	17.5	3.5	35.9
TRIVANDRUM	26.1	215.4	26.3	164.0	26.6	122.9	26.7	271.2	26.6	206.9	26.7	73.1
UDAIPUR	27.3	197.3	26.1	206.9	26.5	120.4	25.5	16.1	20.1	5.7	17.3	2.5

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etropole Restaurant, Old Palace Road, Near Paradise, **Manama.**
anwardas Bhatia, (Private Mess), Near Yusuf Mhmd Pharmacy, **Manama.**

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e Curry House, 3934 Main Street, **Vancouver**
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aharaja Restaurant, 769 Main Street, **Vancouver**
Tele: 874-3755
njab Restaurant, 769 Main Street, **Vancouver**
Tele: 688-5236

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dia Club, Calle San Francisco, Sante Cruz De **Tenerife**
Tele: 242992
dia Club, 71 Juan Rejon, 1st Floor, **Las Palmas**
r Solera De Espana, Albareda, 55, **Las Palmas.**
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ngam, Bole Road, **Addis Ababa**
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harani Restaurant, Laucala Bay Road, **Suva.**
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Mousson, 12, rue Mayet, **Paris**
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Taj, Jalan Veteran 1, No.36, 1st Floor, **Jakarta**
Tele: 46471, 42372

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Taj Mahal, Kikar Kedumim, Old Jaffa, **Tel Aviv**
Tele: 821002

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Maharaja, Takano Building, 6th Floor, Shinjuku, **Tokyo**
Tele: 354-0222 ext. 361
Nair's Restaurant, Showa Dori, Nihonbash, **Tokyo**
Tele: 541-8246
The Taj Restaurant, Debs Building, 2nd Floor, 30 Minami-Honmachi, 2-Chome, Higashi-ku, **Osaka**
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Delhi Restaurant, 41-2 Nakayamate-dori, 3-Chome, Ikuta-ku, **Kobe**
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Gaylord India Restaurant, Meiji Seimei Building, Sannomiya, Opp. City Hall's Flower Clock, **Kobe**
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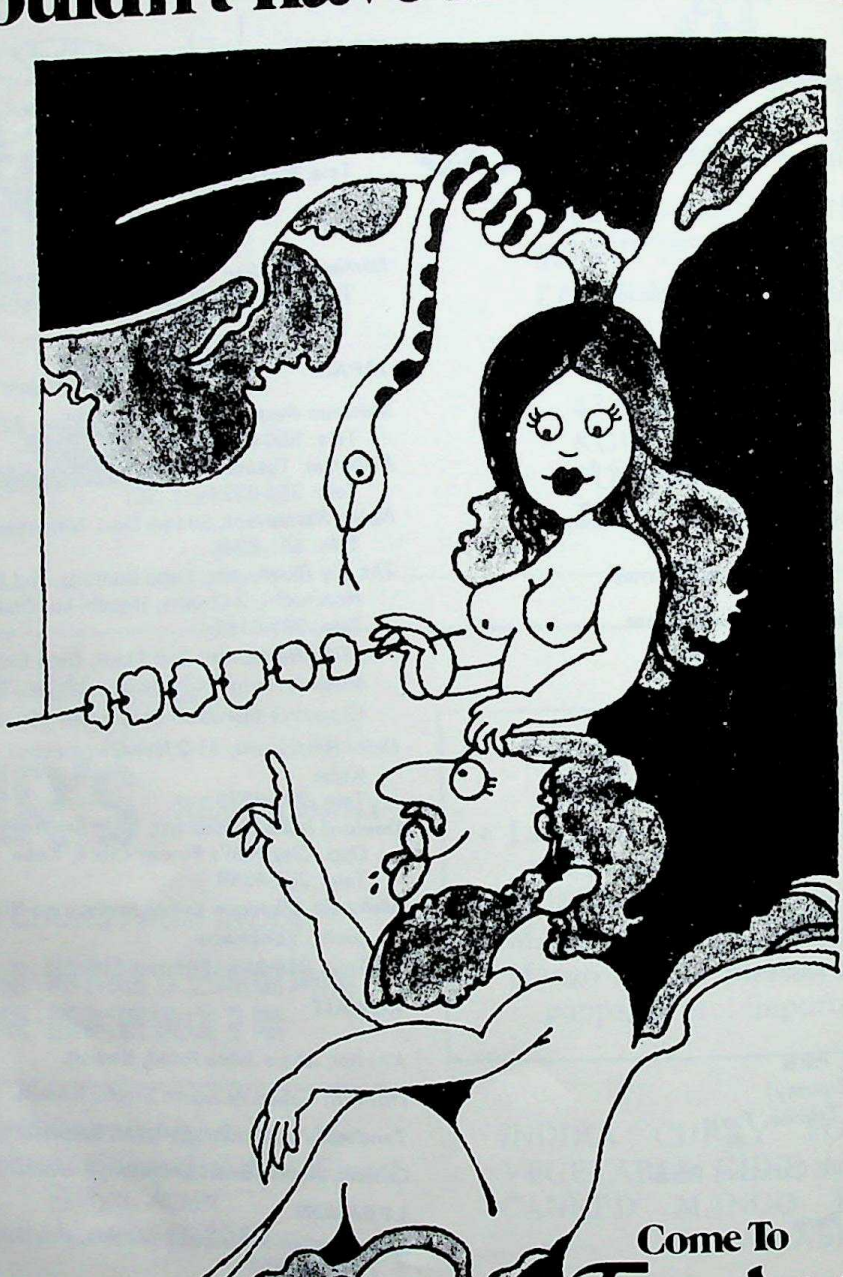
If Eve had discovered Tandoor, she wouldn't have needed the app



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India House, 1718 M. Adriatico Street, Malate, **Manila.**
(Mrs. Daswani)
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The Kashmir Restaurant, 9-11 Tomlinson Road, **Singapore-10**
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Komala Vilas Restaurant, 76-78 Serangoon Road, **Singapore-8**
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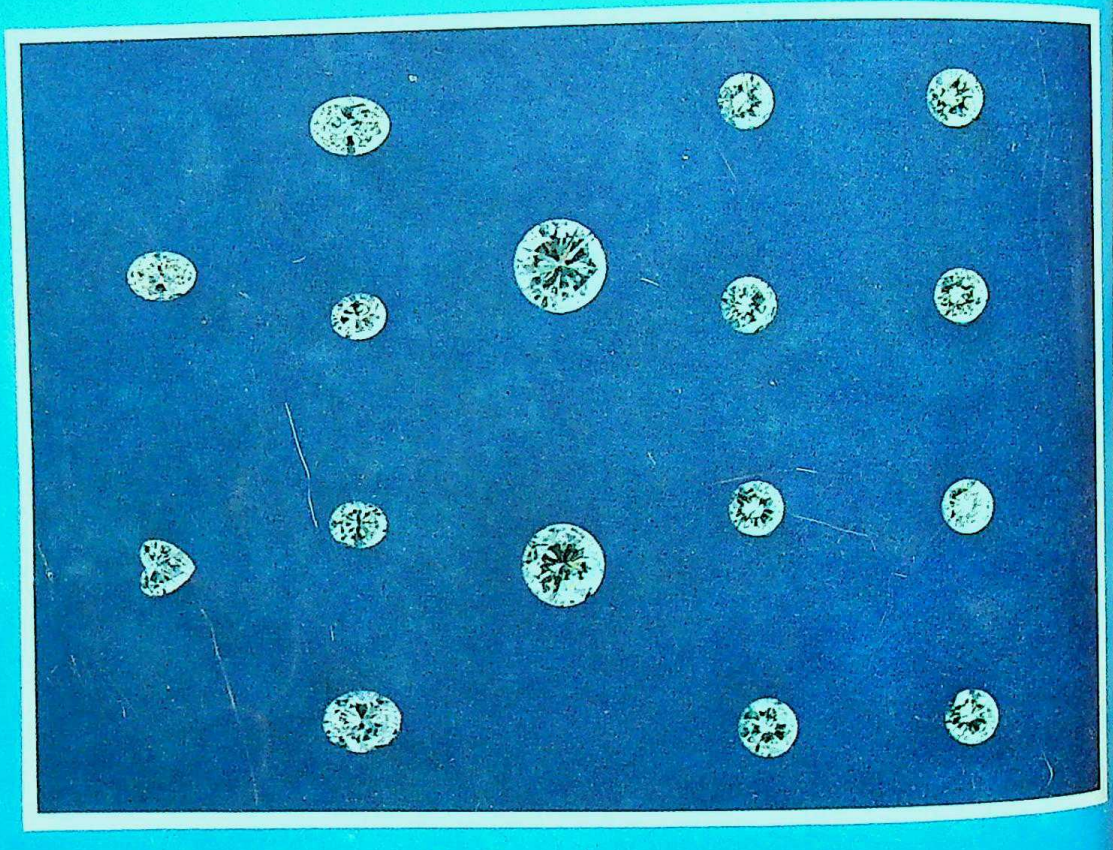

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the indian

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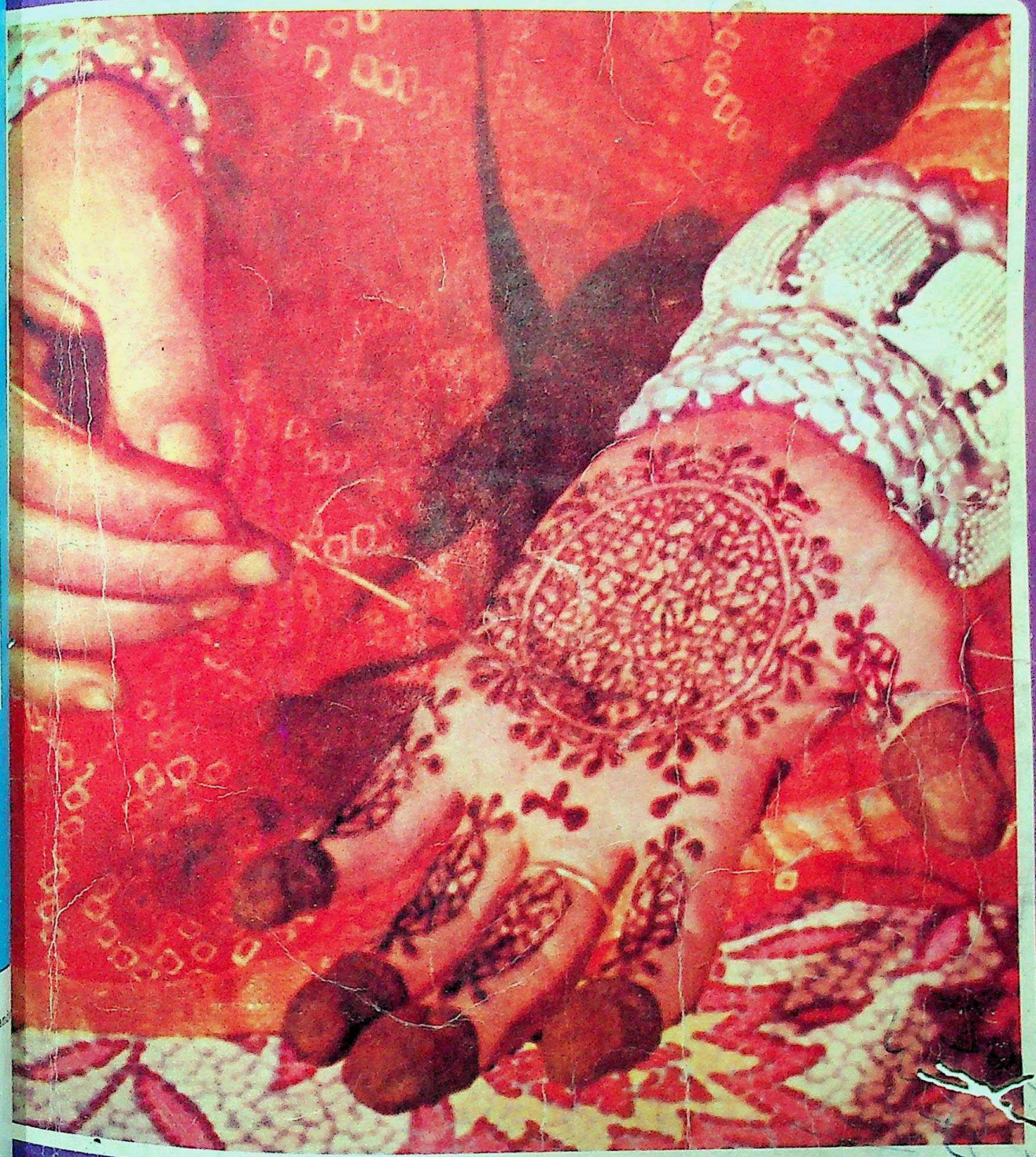

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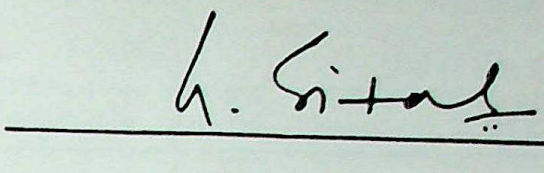
Cover:

The ritual of Mehndi, the application of henna on the hands of women at festive occasions, is practised even today

Samaiki



Mid Term Poll

Despite everyone's disinclination for mid-term poll of the Indian parliament, the country seems to be heading towards it.

Members of the parliament are opposed to it as individuals. An MP takes home Rs. 32,000 a year, gets a bunglow rent free costing Rs. 8,100/- a year, uses two telephones without paying for 15000 calls a year, 10 free air passages a year domestic on airliner and pension of Rs. 500/- a month after serving full term. A majority of the current 544 MPs' are first timers. Mid-term poll means disentitlement of all these benefits and loss of pension.

Political parties do not want to go to polls. Cumulatively, they will have to spend anywhere up to Rs. 2,000 million on electioneering. Having spent this order of money two years ago, their funds are depleted with little chance of quick fresh inputs. To the exchequer, elections cost Rs. 200 million which is a waste. Industrialists and business dread polls as they will be asked or forced to cough out the funds to finance election compaign. India's over 250 million voters are skeptical of all power seeker politicians.

But there seems to be no way out. During 1977 elections, Janata Party polled 43.17 per cent votes and won 302 seats. Congress Party secured 34.54 per cent votes and got 153 seats. Other seats went to regional parties. Now both Janata and Congress are split in the middle. Two Janata Parties are primarily north Indian parties. Jan Sangh dominated group has urban base and Charan Sing's Janata is rural based. Indira Gandhi has more following amongst minorities and Harijans. Chavan Congress is reduced to a party of leaders. In South and Western India, regional parties have gained more strength. When mid-term poll takes place, it is unlikely for any party to obtain clear majority. Either way India is in for coalition government.

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Rear View

UNCERTAINTY AHEAD

The Janata Party formed a little over 800 days ago, as a conventional political body, out of heteregenous elements, its leaders vowed all manner of pious intentions to usher in a new era for the Indian nation, eclipsed as it had been by the excesses of the Emergency. But alas! the aura lasted boy much too short a time. Personal ambition, greed, avarice and self-interest amongst contending politicians, at the Centre and in the states, soon took precedence over the crying national issues.

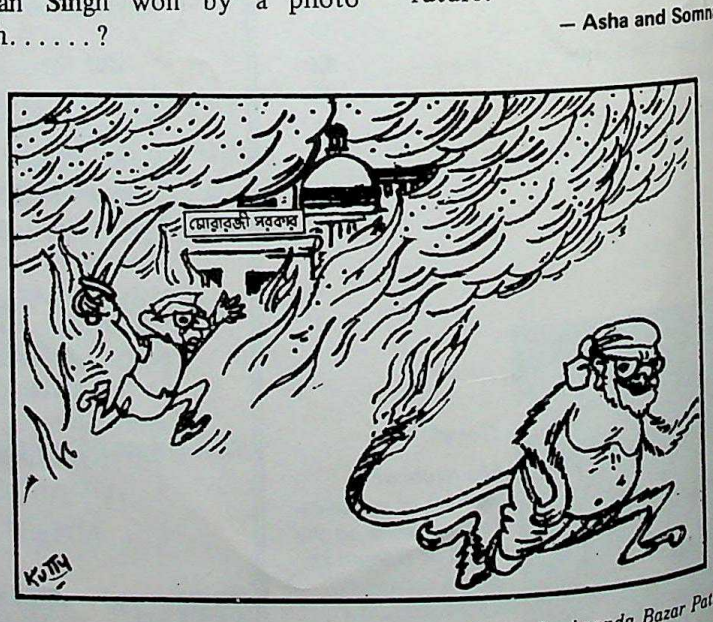
The Janata leaders failed to realise that the people had enthusiastically voted the 'infant' party to power in the fond hope that they would strive to create progress and modernity in the country. Instead of applying themselves to worthwhile and urgent national problems, they went on whipping up old issues-endless commissions and enquiries, that are gathering dust-setting the clock back half a century with feigned Gandhian concepts, like prohibition and exercising self control instead of taking active family planning measures, which hardly met the aspirations of the people.

The year of grace 1979 saw the worst in living memory with power shut-downs in the industries in Calcutta and Bombay and partly in Delhi. Water shortage and sabotage paralysed life in the capital of India. Students revolted against the teachers. Police and Central Reserve Police rose in mutiny. Workers in state undertakings downed tools, post offices ran out of postage stamps.Communal riots in the industrial town of Jamshedpur resulted in deaths and anarchy.

The University town of Aligarh simmered with continual commercial strife. And yet, "There is no crisis" said the unflappable Morarji Desai from the pulpit, moralising and philosophising all the time. The Congress triggered off the crisis by moving the no-confidence motion, and even before the motion was put to the vote, the Prime Minister had quit office. With defections galore, boosting the front-runners for office, Charan Singh won by a photo finish. . . . . ?

Lohiaite principle "The often you change governmer better your chances of the ideal government." thinking! The crisis is on, be, for quite some time unprecedented crisis of conf For, wavering, challenging ians, driven by compulsive i to get the 'chairs' (kiss ka, followed by hissa kursi loaves and fishes of offi still strutting on the stag an uneasy coalition of d parties forming the Central ment. It is indeed an iron of events in the body po India, in which Mrs. Gandhi has become relevan enly, thanks to the Janata long innings of inaction, the effective actions having been ant infighting. Whatever the the Charan Singh coalition, will be muddling through "a tioning anarchy" in the fores future.

— Asha and Somnat



Lanka Dahan — **Kutty in *Ananda Bazar Patrika***

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EXPATRIATE INDIANS HONOURED

India honoured the achievements of 14 of its expatriate scholars and scientists who are playing stellar roles in America's academic and artistic life. Some of the names are household words in India and elsewhere. The function was held in Washington D.C. All of them received plaques "With esteem and affection from the people of India". Invited guests paid US $ 30 for a lamb curry plate at Hilton to meet the big name compatriots in person.

There were Har Gobind Khorana-the Noble Prize winner, New York Philharmonic conductor Zubin Mehta, author Raja Rao whose book "Serpent and Rope" has been described as something "By which an age can measure itself". Singwi Director of Argonne National Laboratory of America and Manik Talwani Director of Lamont Doherty Geological Observatory, New York were there. The latter has won NASA and GUA awards and has recently concluded a Joint Sino-America Ocean exploration agreement. Others to be honoured were S. Chandrasekhar, the astrophysicist, C.K. Kothari, inventor of carbon dioxide laser and head of BellResearch Laboratory, R.C. Bose and Harish Chandra both mathematicians, Satyabrata Nandi head of Cancer Research Laboratory at Barkeley, A.K. Ramanujan, Chairman of Asian Studies Centre at Chicago, Rustom Roy, Advisor to Standard Oil and Xerox, S. Subramanium, the Cardiovascular Surgeon and E.G.C. Sudarshan Director of Joint Research Centre of the Universities of Texas and Warsaw.

All these eminent Indian expatriates left home years ago to seek better opportunities in the states and have made their mark in America. All wish to get back home, if possible. And they appreciated India's recognition of their merit. Said Talwani "It is like your father patting you on the back for a job well done".

—K. N. Vaid

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Their presence abroad has created new export markets for you. They are partly responsible for the unprecedented boom in tourism you are experiencing today. Though their achievements in the field of science and technology, they enhance your prestige abroad. They create for you new areas of interests and new groups of friends abroad. Lastly, they take your values and philosophy abroad and popularise them there. In fact they are your most effective ambassadors.

In spite of this, you have almost degraded them, perhaps without knowing it, to the status of second class citizens. How is it, that Overseas Indians do not have a chance to participate in the decision-making process in your democracy? You do not give them a chance to exercise their voting rights. For me, it is ceass discrimination when you allow India-based government servants working abroad to exercise their voting rights and exclude all other bona fide Indian citizens living abroad from the exercise of this most basic of all democratic right.....

We fail to notice a planned and determined effort on your part to create circumstances by which the masses which come out of the universities and training institutions are absorbed in the production process of the country. Instead, by acts of commission or omission, you continue to create an atmosphere in the country which encourages even compels mass migration of your children in search of a decent living abroad.

Is it so difficult for you to channelise the remittances of overseas Indians into job-producing investment projects?..... . . ."

Jose Prennamparambel

(Courtesy: Times of India)

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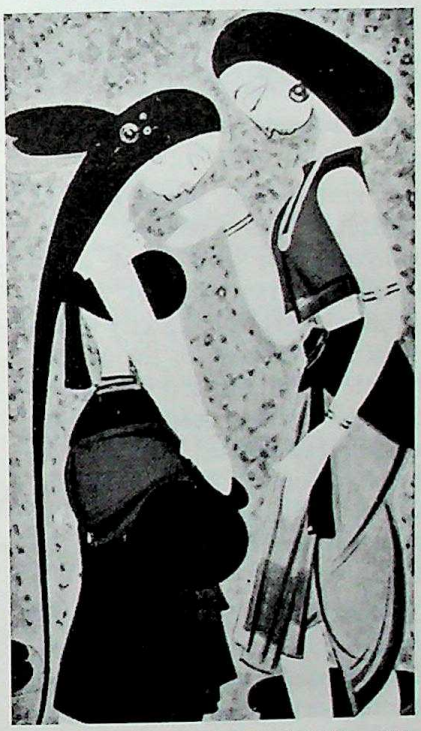
Going Places With Kalidasa

By Krishna Chaitanya

(Paintings by Artist Laxman Varma)

THE LOVELORNS



Shakuntala and Dushyanta are standing in a trance.

Ever since Goethe paid his great tribute to *Shakuntala*, Kalidasa has fascinated European scholarship and a tremendous amount of research has been done on this fourth century poet and dramatist of India. But the layman, who shies away from ponderous erudition, would prefer to go to Kalidasa for relaxation, and his is the way the poet would have liked it. Kalidasa is an excellent holiday companion, for he can take you to many places, in India and beyond, and you can pick up from him many pleasant titbits about the geography of the ancient world.

But poets often show a cavalier attitude towards the facts of geography. Wodehouse's Bertie Wooster is admittedly no intellectual, but he did spot some bloomers in Shakespeare."Sounds good, but doesn't mean a thing". That was his comment on the bard of Avon. Bertie had his reservations about a poet who said porpentine when he meant porcupine and there was so little rapport between the two great minds that the only thing Bertie remembered from Shakespeare was the stage direction: "Exit, followed by a bear". That occurs in *A Winter's Tale* which takes you to the sea-coast of Bohemia. What sort of geography is that, Bertie would have reasonably asked. For landlocked Bohemia may have its Vltava river, about which Smetana wrote a beautiful tone poem, but the sea is nowhere near the land.

ARMCHAIR TRAVELLER

The fourth century bard of Ujjain seems to have proceeded more warily with his geography. If Kalidasa had been to all the places he has talked about, his patron would have had to foot a colossal travel grant. For the coverage is pretty extensive. The twin peaks Malaya and Dardura "which seemed like the breasts of the southern region" (even if the peaks were nowhere near each other, he would have come up with the same imagery), mentioned in the*Reghuvamsa* seem to be Anaimudi in Kerala and Deodahbetta in the Nilgiris. The Palghat gap through the Western Ghats here must have been the route by which Raghu and his soldiers crossed in Kerala. At the other end is the region of the Oxus where Raghu did a bit of no good to the Huns.

While it looks certain that Kalidasa knew his Malwa and Central India well, he could not possibly have covered all that tract from Central Asia to the tip of the Indian peninsula. It is quite possible, as Bloch has suggested that he soaked up all the interesting lore that became available through Samudragupta's extensive campaigns. But he also seems to have done a fine desk job, rewriting the stuff he could get from earlier literature.

For instance the Mahabharata refers to the Kiratas of the Himalayan region. They had a golden complexion, were expert in training elephants and were brought under Duryodhana by a task force trained in mountain warfare, led by Karna. In Raghu's campaigns in the Himalayan region, the Mongoloid hill tribes like the Bhutiyas and the Lepchas appear as Kiratas and

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SHAKUNTALA'S DAY-DREAM

If you desire the blossoms of youth, the fruits of old age,
If you desire that which charms & enthralls you,
If you desire that which feeds and nourishes you,
If you desire to embrace all Heaven and Earth in one name
I call you Shakuntala and everything is said –

– GOETHE

The picture illustrates how a female deer is jealously watching Shakuntala mischievously playing with a young male deer.

Kalidasa adds a cute detail to show that they were smart at spotting clues – as smart as Fenimore Cooper's Red Indians. They could learn the height of Raghu's elephants by the height of the marks made on the Deodar trees by the ropes with which they were tied to them. This sort of smart copy-writing would give the impression that the writer had lived among the Kiratas for years. That precisely was the idea.

PUZZLING LOCATIONS

Once we grant that locales in Kalidasa are not just any-woolywhere like the sea-coast of Bohemia, working out precise locations – or watching others slogging at that job – can be great fun. For instance, where exactly was the quiet woodland hermitage of Kanva where Dushyanta met Shakuntala? The Mahabharata mentions a Kanvashrama on the Bombay coast and another between Pushkar and Ujjain. Haraprasad Sastri identified the hermitage in Kalidasa with the latter which could be in the Sirohi area near Mount Abu. But, as Chakladar has pointed out, Dushyanta saw the forest at a distance of two *yojanas* (about eighteen miles) from his city which seems to have been in the Meerut district. Shakuntala and her escort, likewise, started early in the morning and reached the capital in the afternoon, for we read that the King had left for his siesta and the attendant was reluctant to disturb him.

Puzzling out the location of Valmiki's hermitage in the *Raghuvamsa* can be an equally interesting game. We know that it was on the banks of the Tamasa, but not far from the banks of the Ganges. For Lakshmana reaches the sands of the Ganges and points out to Sita the path to the hermitage, but not the hermitage itself. And Valmiki also had come here to gather the Kusa grass for his ritual. An old man does not trek miles for a handful of grass. But the snag is that there are two rivers called Tons (Tamasa). Pargiter identified Valmiki's Tamasa with the Tons which flows about twelve miles away on the west side of Sa the modern Sarju or Ghagra, o west bank of which Oud Ayodhya stands. This Tons is a Chhoti Sarju and it joins the Ga four miles west of Ballia town.

But, as Chakladar has shre argued, to reach this junction Ayodhya, Lakshmana would to cross the Tamasa first an would have found the herm there and it would have absurd for him to cross the Ga as well, get to the other side nearly dislocate his neck tryi look back all the way.

We have another clue. Satrug while marching with an arm subdue all lands as a prelude t performance of the imperial h sacrifice by Rama, meets the Lava and Kusa, in Balmiki's her age and nearly gets beaten u those plucky youngsters. We k that this happened when he proceeding to Mathura Ayodhya. But in order to go Ayodhya to Mathura, he need at all have gone to the Ballia which is too far out to the Therefore, if the hermitage

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somewhere near Ballia on the Tons or Chhoti Sarju, he would not have been anywhere near it while marching to Mathura.

WRANGLING PUNDITS

Prayag, during this epoch, was completely shut off by forests and Satrughna seems to have done his crossing not at the junction of the Ganges and the Yamuna, but slightly to the east, at the junction of the Yamuna and a southern Tamasa or Tons. This stream, which rises in the Kaimur range and falls into the Ganges nineteen miles below the junction of the latter with the Yamuna, seems to be the Tamasa where Valmiki's hermitage was located.

Sometimes the wrangle between the pundits about locations and identifications can throw interesting light on the economies and trades of old regions. Raghu, we are told by Kalidasa, got pearls from the Pandyas as tribute and the pearls came from the sea near Tamraparni. Mallinatha, like the sensible person he was, said that Kalidasa was referring to the river. But Bloch thought he knew better, wisecracked ponderously – "even Mallinatha sometimes nods" – and proceeded to assure us that Tamraparni meant Sri Lanka. But Varahamihira, who was Kalidasa's contemporary, in his enumeration of these regions, mentions Simhala and Tamraparni separately. He also mentions eight varieties of pearls, listing and describing separately those from Simhala and those from Tamraparni. The *Periplus of the Erithraean Sea* refers to "Colci where the pearl fisheries are, belonging to the Pandyab kingdom". This Colci is Kolkai, the first capital of the Pandyas, near the mouth of the Tamravarni which rises in the Western Ghats, flows through Tirunelveli and falls into the Gulf of Mannar. So the Madras coast seems to have been once the site of a flourishing pearl fishery and unless those oysters have legged it elsewhere, we might as well have a crack at reviving it.

CLOSEUPS AND LONG SHOTS

The guide-books now being brought out by the India Tourism Development Corporation show special concern for those tourists who want to cherish their memories in photographs, and give a lot of helpful hints. But, as Eienstein showed through a brilliant analysis in his *Film Sense*, great poetry is always rich in visual cues, depicting locales and panoramas from many angles and in a varied rhythm of closeups, medium shots and long shots. Kalidasa's poetry is full of such images. The poet went by air, riding a cloud, in that trip from the Vindhvas to the Himalayas in *Meghadut*. A long shot presents you the cranes with silver pinions in formation flight weaving a garland of white lotuses in the sky. A medium shot, managed with the mind's telephoto lens, presents you the township of Dasarna "with its garden hedgerows gilded white by the Ketaki blooms blown at the apex, its village trees busy with nest-building birds". The camera pans in the *Ritu-Samhara*: the wind comes trembling through the burdened paddy-stalks, making one flowery ripple of the lotus-crowded lake. And now the camera zooms to give an amusing and delightful closeup: the racing stream, speeded up by the first tains, dashes its ripples in the wild-duck's face.

A good time is guaranteed if one travels with Kalidasa. I wish I had been with Raghu's soldiers in their southern campaign. They discovered a new style of relaxing. Walk into a cool, shady arecanut grove, preferably where you can be lulled by the sounds of the sea. You will find the betel creeper enlacing almost palm. Gather the leaves and make cool, thick beds with them. Now relax and enjoy the fermented juice of the coconut palm. This was the way old Theocritus used to spend warm Sicilian afternoons; only, he used the leaves of the vine and fragrant lentisk for his bed and chose the shade of poplars and elms, while loosening the four-year-old pitch seal from the mouth of the wine jars. This picture of pastoral peace need not change when prohibition comes, for the coconut palm can give you an unfermented drink which perhaps has an even finer bouquet – of flora and the country green.

RAJPUT-FRAULEIN MATCH RUNS INTO PROBLEMS

A 22-year-old German woman who came to India in search of peace has found herself in the midst of a tumultuous love story instead.

Edith Erika Forster came to Jaipur in March and met her then future husband, Gopal Singh Rawat, a local rickshaw puller, during a stopover at the Jaipur station.

When she returned to Jaipur in June she again hired Gopal's rickshaw to take her around the city. Love grew over endless cups of tea which the pretty fraulein from Frankfurt and the well-built Rajput sipped at wayside cafes.

They were wed June 22 at the local Arya Samaj in the presence of all the city's rickshaw pullers who had aided their cause.

The love story of the rickshaw puller and his bride then took a turn for the worse.

Erika was arrested for allegedly tampering with her visa and now faces criminal charges under the Criminal Penal Code and the Foreigners Act. Gopal Singh Rawat is penniless and has been ostracized by his family for breaking the age-old Rajput tradition against marrying a foreigner.

A dejected Gopal told a reporter: "Had I known it earlier I would not have married her. But now that she is my wife I will do anything to protect her."

Erika is confident that things will work out with the aid of her husband's friends.

She is said to have confessed to the police that she had tampered with her passport.

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SEX AS SIN

ALIEN TO INDIAN CULTURE

By Ka Naa Subramanyam

For more than two decades Nirad Chaudhury has been a controversial writer, who deals with themes which hurt some Indians to the quick. They have tried to ignore him as often as they have tried to answer him. But he has been rather impressible and as often unanswerable on his own ground.

His latest book, a labor of love plainly, as he is not and does not claim to be a practicing Hindu, is a book called *Hinduism* published in Britain by Chatto and Windus and reprinted in an Indian edition by B.I. Publications. It has had the usual publicity in the Indian press – catering to the sensational readers of weeklies – where some salacious parts of the book were printed with illustrations not to be found in the book. It has been reviewed by weak-kneed Hindus out to defend the traditions and aghast at the implications of eroticism in religious practice, suggestions which they think are farfetched and false.

It cannot be said that the author has not anticipated the attitudes that his book was likely to evoke – especially about his observations on the eroticism in temple sculptures, in literature of a puranic or secular kind, and in common practice. He tries to argue that certain critics would be naive, others hypocritical, but most would not be up to acknowledging the frank eroticism of our arts, writings, and religious practices.

Though eroticism is only one small strand in the general make-up of his book, it is inevitable that in present Indian attitudes to life and sex there should be a certain wariness among people on accepting eroticism and their attempts to gloss over it as being symbolic or esoteric, or simply avoiding the issue by saying that the love depicted is divine and not mundane love.

POPULAR CULT

But first we have to note a difference that Nirad Chaudhury is at pains to point out. Neither the frankly phallic symbol of the Shiva cult and the worship associated with it, nor the worship of Kali or Durga as the mother goddess assumed the erotic proportions that the Vaishnava or Krishna cult did. If there were *Kapalikas* among the Shiva worshippers and the *Vamacharis* among the Kali worshippers, they were not open practitioners of their rituals; they tried to conceal or keep secret what they did. But not so with the Krishna followers. Because of the erotic implications in the Krishna cult, it became the most popular in Hinduism.

Nirad Chaudhury traces the origins and transformation of the Krishna cult with meticulous care. He tends to dismiss most of [illegible] erences to Krishna as a divi[illegible] in the Mahabharata, where [illegible] core he is presented on[illegible] statesman and as a ruler [illegible] craft and wiliness. It is in [illegible] that the divine in Krishn[illegible] first expression and there [illegible] dating it with certainty. [illegible] Chaudhury is inclined to [illegible] after the Christian era, [illegible] frankly holds the view that [illegible] inspired in part by the C[illegible] idea of devotion, *Bhakti*, [illegible] in the New Testament, equat[illegible] love of Krishna in an [illegible] context with a love for Jesus [illegible] ultimate.

"Knowledge of Christianity [illegible] speculatively suggests, "coul[illegible] existed in India just as some [illegible] ledge of Hindu philosophy w[illegible] sent in the Greco-Roman wor[illegible]

This might be enough to [illegible] the backs of the orthodox – t[illegible] pute Christian influence and [illegible] in the much-accepted, much[illegible] mented upon and much-[illegible] pure gospel of the Hindus, [illegible] them for generations, the *Bh*[illegible] *Gita*. But one will have to [illegible] that speculatively there is [illegible] sense in what Chaudhury says [illegible] a matter of inference if we [illegible] that the *Gita* attempts for the [illegible] time in Indian religion the rep[illegible] of a love of an abstract God [illegible] the love of personal being as [illegible] But this agape, love

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which was enough to make Christianity a great religious force in the Greco-Roman world, was not enough for the Hindu. Living Vaishnavism, according to Chaudhury, originated with three texts all later in time to the *Gita* and developing on Krishna as God – the *Vishnu Purana*, the *Harivamsa*, and the *Bhagavta Purana*. "In the *Bhagavata Purana*, the basic text of the Vaishnava doctrines and the new Vaishnava bhakti, both nudity and sexual intercourse are described. No vagueness is left on this point," he writes.

One has to admit that Nirad Chaudhury can be very convincing even when his reader is willing to concede his points and is wary of them in a general sense.

"Modern Hindu commentators dwell on the sublimity and purity of the conception, and pour scorn on those who see only adulterous sexual gratification in these proceedings," he writes. "They all say that these accounts should be taken only allegorically. But nobody explains why such allegories should have been necessary to persuade the Hindus to have *bhakti* for Krishna, and why again, if such allurements were necessary, the *Gita* did not offer them. Even the exponents of *bhakti* of the Bhagavata school admit that the form in which it is presented in that book is the highest."

ELEMENTS OF LOVE

The new elements that were introduced into the bhakti of Krishna were "First, love for Krishna as God must correspond to sexual love between men and women. Secondly, it must be adulterous sexual love. Finally, this love must be simple physical satisfaction accompanied only by that much and that kind of emotion which is always felt when that intercourse is brought about by passion, that is when it is not that offered by a prostitute. From this to the reference for adulterous love was but a short step."

Why this cult should have appealed to many and inspired a numerous following follows from some generalizations that Nirad Chaudhury goes on to offer in this context.

"Early marriage, arranged marriage, polygamy and perpetual widowhood generated an intense yearning for sexual satisfaction outside wedlock among Hindu women," he suggests. "Of this there is overwhelming proof in Sanskrit literature, in literature in the modern Indian languages, and also in practice so far as it can be observed. Even in the married state, love between husband and wife in Hindu society meant no more than pleasure in the sexual act, so far as it was an intimate passion, and not more than social affection."

Apart from the Krishna Vaishanava cult with emanations which the author deals with in some convincing detail, he devotes some space to eroticism in the arts and the literature of India dwelling at times with effective nonchalance on present-day hypocrisy about them.

He points out that Kalidasa in dwelling on Shiva and Uma as god and goddess is full of devotion and respect, but it does not prevent him from depicting their amors in all physical detail – in somewhat gross human and erotic terms. His interest is not in the sensational, as much as in the logical and cultural emanation of it. As one recent researcher into the Vaishnava cult in Tamil Nadu, after turning over the pages of the book and looking into the index, said: "Most scholars of India and even those from the outside are satisfied with Sanskrit and North Indian references. If they had turned to the South, where the earliest forms of Vaishnava bhakti after or perhaps even before the *Gita* developed, they might have found more arguments to enforce his (Chaudhury's) contentions and clinch them."

VICTORIAN LEGACY

The Andal poems in Tamil are frankly so physical that a wise community has adopted them for marriage songs. My friend told me that there are references to Vaishnava singers adopting women's costumes in an attempt to realize the love of Krishna in a more fitting form. Would it make them transvestites in a psychoanalytical sense?

And larger questions remain. Granting that one great section of the Hindus in religion, art and literature was frankly erotic and not finicky about it, what does it prove? That the morals of today or the lack of them are not modern at all but a heritage of almost a greater part of humankind?

Recent pruderies have often been described as a legacy of the Victorian English who dared not look at sex face to face but hid behind some conventional attitudes. Censorship is, at least in India, a British heritage – one which Indians have not dared to disown. Freud liberated much of sex but such liberation was necessary in a Christian milieu which looked upon sex as sin, and not in healthy societies like India in which there was no idea of sin or guilt attached to sex in expression or fulfillment of it.

PEACOCK IN SOUP

Is India's national bird, the peacock, served as a delicacy in Indian restaurants?

Yes, alleges a Manhattan hotelierfirm.

A noted food writer, Craig Clairborne, notes: "When a reader recently inquired if people really eat peacock, I stated that I had never tasted the bird, roasted or otherwise, and as far as I knew, it is rarely cooked anywhere in the world."

"Now comes a note from Pierre Michelle of Manhattan who writes that "Peacock is served at Western-style hotels in India." 'On menus, there, he continues, it is listed as fowl and it is roasted very much the way we do turkey.

"It is not so juicy and tender as turkey," he adds, "perhaps because modern breeding techniques haven't been applied."

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Lahore Sikh Museum

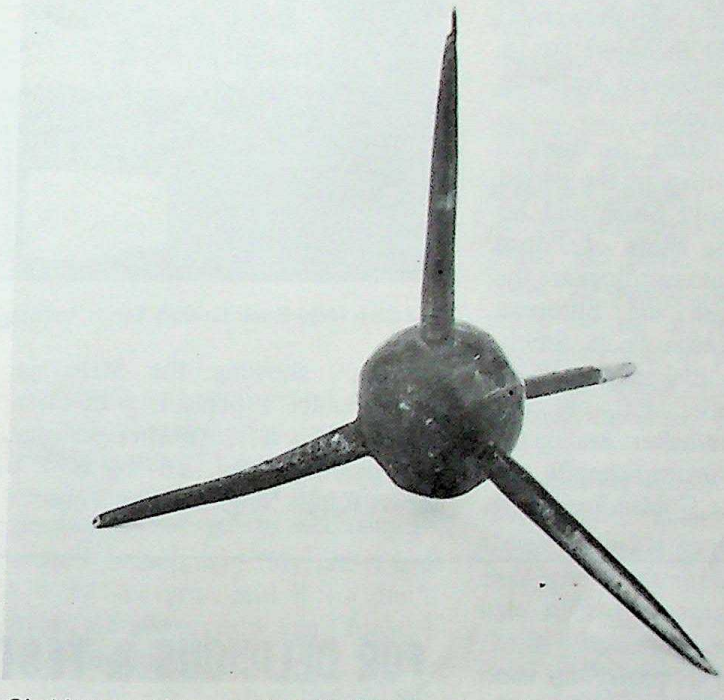
By Somnath Dhar

A *Jatha* of 800 Sikh pilgrims recently crossed into Pakistan through the Wagah border – 27 km from Amritsar, the holy city of Sikhs – for a 4-day pilgrimage of Dehra Sahib Gurdwara in Lahore, in observance of the martyrdom of Guru Arjun Dev, fifth Sikh guru. Earlier, almost double this number of Sikh pilgrims, led by the Punjab Revenue Minister, Mr. Jiwansingh Umranangal, visited the famous Gurdwara Panja Sahib at Hasan Abdal, to celebrate Baisakhi.

These pilgrims and other Sikhs and Indians visiting Pakistan have been visiting the Sikh Museum, established last year by the Pakistan Department of Archaeology, inside the old Fort in Lahore, in order to preserve the Sikh relics in a befitting manner. Large numbers of Sikh pilgrims also visit the museum-housed in a double-storeyed mansion of Rani Jindan, the senior queen of Maharaja Ranjit Singh-on the occasions of the birth anniversary of Guru Nanak and the death anniversary of the Maharaja.

UNIQUE COLLECTION

The Sikh Museum possesses a rare collection of arms and armoury used by the Sikh Army during 1799-1846 A. D. The battle scenes between the Sikh and British armies are displayed beside photographs and paintings of Sikh princes and dignitaries. The most interesting object on view is the original gold trappings of Maharaja Ranjit



Ghokhrú or caltrop used by the Sikh army to maim the horses of the enemy cavalry, is on display in the central showcase.

An oil painting depicts "the Sikh battle of Chillian Wala" against the British army (1849 A.D.). *Photos: Pakistan Feature Service*

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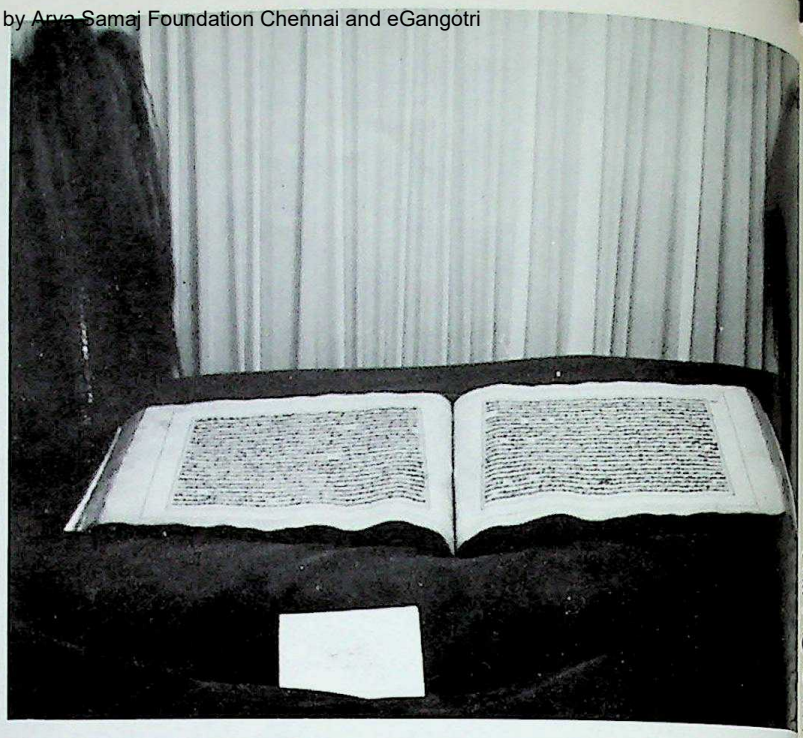
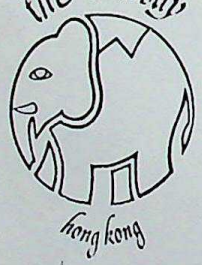
Singh's horse. It is realistically displayed on a life-size wooden model of a horse. The Granth Sahib (the Sikh Holy book) used by the Maharaja, and 'Gokhru', a type of caltrop used in the battlefield by the Sikhs to maim the enemy army horses, are also on view. Swords and battle-axes of different kinds, divergent-shaped Afghan and Sikh daggers, muskets, rifles, percussion and flint-lock pistols, bows and arrows, breast-plates and bayonets, are displayed in the wall showcases. Sikh *Kirpans* and *Bichhwas* are to be seen in an enclosure featuring the Sikh military band.

The upper storey occupies a series of oil paintings of the period of Maharaja Ranjit Singh and his family, including those of Prince Dalip Singh. These paintings are the works of British and European painters like Leslie Poole Smith, Goldingham, Blakeney Ward, August Schoefft, P.C. French, Paillet and Winterhalter. Among the four works of August Schoefft, one is a view of the Golden Temple at Amritsar, showing the Maharaja seated under a parasol, with Sher Singh on his left. Another panoramic painting (size, 16' by 8'-4") shows Ranjit Singh holding a court.



The Sikh Holy Book Granth Sahib, belonging to Maharaja Ranjit Singh on displ

It was on display in the M Museum before its return to tan in 1961, according to th of Princess Bamba, grand-da of the Maharaja.



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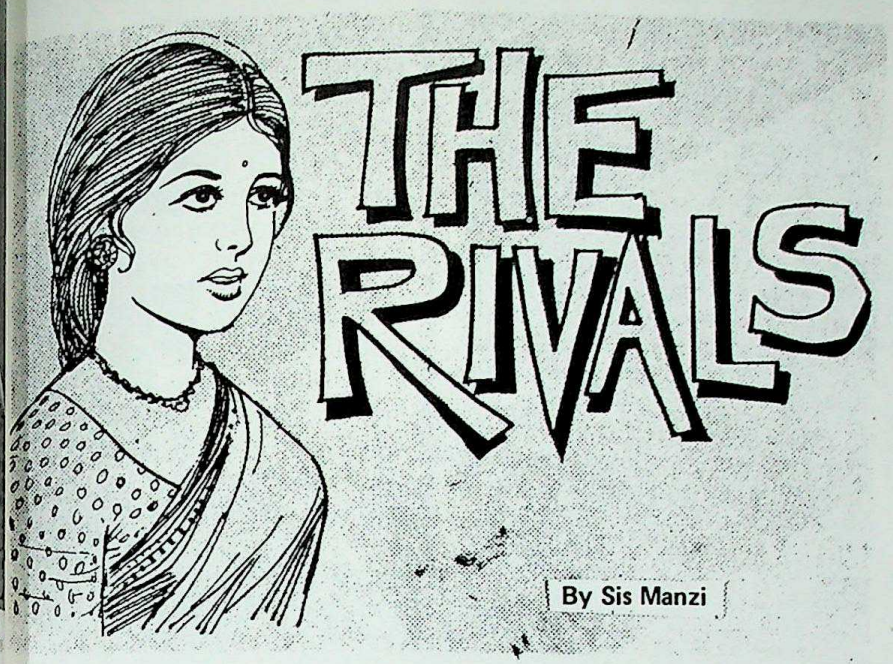

THE RIVALS

By Sis Manzi

Kandan lay on his back, unmindful of the scorching sun, lost in sullen thoughts. His charge, a dozen cows and calves, grazed here and there within call. Kandan was deliciously thinking up punishments for the young master, his own age, who had that day mortally offended him by offering him an apple – a rare treat – and when Kandan had unsuspectingly stretched out his hands, stuffed the whole apple into his own mouth.

"Go to hell!" Kandan had muttered, forgetting he was a lowly shepherd boy in the employ of his young master's father, the mighty landlord of the village.

Govind was surprised at Kandan's mortification and the vehemence in his muttered oath. He had only wanted to tease him a bit. He now offered him another apple: "Come, I was just teasing you. Take this."

Kandan's offended pride rose to its full puny height. "No," he said. "Eat it yourself, and go to hell!"

"O.K. Will you follow me?" Govind was again flippant.

"No, I will go before you to keep the oil boiling and ready to roast you!" returned Kandan in heavy humour.

"Don't be a spoilsport, Kandan," Govind wheedled good-naturedly.

"Who am I?" asked Kandan in unconscious rhetoric – he was too shrewd to let go an occasion to wallow in self-pity. "My father and I work for you, and if we don't work, we starve, how can I forget I am your slave?"

Govind was angry at this unkind twist. "Oh, go to hell!" he said and went away, giving up any further effort at reconciliation.

And Kandan sat brooding. His father was growing older and weaker and when he was gone, he, Kandan, would be the only prop of the family. He had to please Govind, whether he liked it or not, and at the thought, Kandan shed tears of hatred and frustration.

Time sped by. Govind's father died, leaving him sole heir to his vast property. Kandan's father still worked for him, but Kandan did not. He had run away without telling anybody, and after some months had been given up for lost forever. His father seldom talked of him and then only in anger.

Times changed. Following land legislation laws, Govind had to give up a big chunk of his holding, but he was not worried. "Less botheration," he thought.

Moreover, the 'Gulf wave' had started, inundating the sleepy country-side with money to throw away. Thousands of unskilled and semi-skilled workers who would have been considered lucky if they could get a hundred rupees, had landed in Dubai, Bahrein, Muscat and other places where they were grabbed and put in jobs that brought them five to ten thousand rupees per month. Villagers, who had not seen a hundred rupees together now got money-orders that ran into thousands, and truly did not know what to do with it.

Land prices shot up; buildings, sprawling, shoddy, immense giants of concrete and steel, in gaudy paints and garish decor, began to come up beside dilapidated old-mode houses in remote villages. Vegetables sold at a premium and fish and meat prices shot up beyond the reach of the average man.

Labourers were in great demand, they could name their price. Govind found it hard to make both ends meet with the unprecedented hike in labour wages and the price rise in common necessities. He now never lorded it over willing workers who were satisfied with a pittance and an occasional gift, he worked in the fields, fraternised with his workers and yet had to accustom himself to the daily sight of his labourers deserting him for the better wages and prospects offered by a 'Gulf-returned' *nouveau riche* and had to be satisfied with the cast-offs, the old, the infirm, and the diseased.

Then one day Kandan's father failed to turn up. Govind's other trusted helper, Koran, came alone and said Kandan's father would not come to work any more.

"Is he ill? asked Govind in quick sympathy. He remembered the life-long drudgery of the old fellow in his and his father's service. He could not leave him now.

"No, master," said Koran in undisguised excitement. "Kandan has come back. He is rolling in

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riches, and he won't let his father work any more."

"Kandan had come back?" And Govind forgot his work and virtually ran all the way to his retainer's humble cottage – an unprecedented thing – glad and jealous simultaneously.

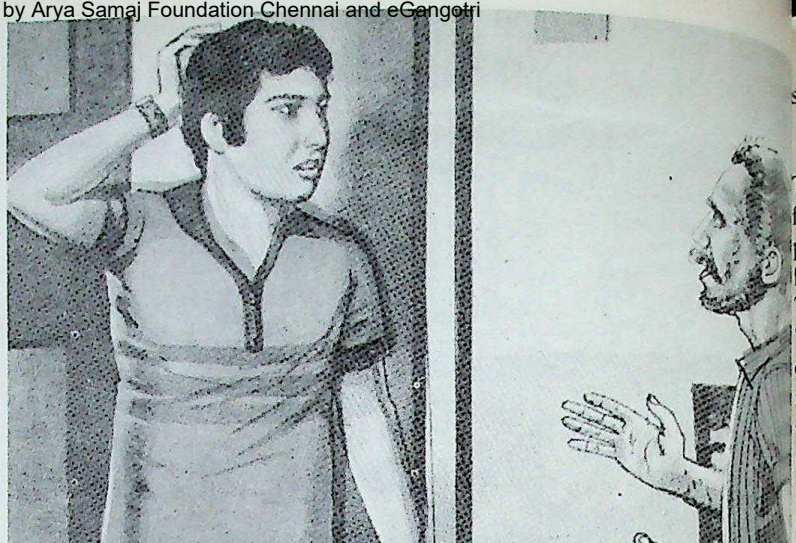
There the old friends met – to part company for ever.

The old aristocrat hailed Kandan – now K. Dan, as proclaimed in labels on the half dozen brand-new suitcases strewn all over the floor with their rich and shining contents peeping out – with a bit of condescension no doubt, and the shepherd boy of long ago returned the salutation with indifference and insolence. Govind did not stay long. He was offered a seat on the veranda and the interested audience that listened spell-bound to K. Dan's "I" -riddled narrative paid him scant respect. K. Dan was clearly in the centre of the stage and meant to keep it. Govind retreated with ill grace and was angrily aware of a bout of derisive laughter that could have been at his expense.

"To forget the past so completely! The upstart!" thought Govind angrily as he recalled with envy and chagrin the delicious eats and drinks which were passing round. He had been offered in turn but he, duty bound, had felt forced to decline – and K. Dan had pierced the wound by saying "Oh, the master won't relish our humble fare!"

"What does he think of himself, to talk down to me – to 'me'? indignantly thought K. Dan. But while Govind had contained his thought within himself, partly for want of an audience, K. Dan expressed himself freely to an appreciative audience that booed and tittered in encouragement.

Govind soon found that K. Dan was not going to fritter away his wealth in merry-making, as he had secretly and fondly wished. In a week he had purchased an acre of garden land at a price that made Govind sit up and rub his eyes in



"Kandan has come back!" cried Koran excitedly. "He is rolling in riches."

disbelief. At that rate, he calculated, he could dispose of all his property and live happily ever after without doing an hour's honest work.

But later, when a cautious feeler was put to him on behalf of K. Dan offering to purchase a stretch of grazing ground next to his house Govind bristled and said: "Not for all the wealth of Arabia!"

"Then I will smoke him out, the filthy rat!" declared K. Dan to a chorus of appreciative laughter from his hangers-on. This did not fail to reach the ears of Govind.

"Will he? Let us see how the upstart goes about it!" was Govind's response.

Soon Govind found to his discomfiture that his labour strength had dwindled. Daily one or another left him, lured by the offer of extra wages and free food. For a time Govind made an attempt to fight the tide.

"Why Nanu, where have you been? What about work?" he asked a 'deserted' servant.

Nanu scratched his head in classic gesture of apology. "He me twelve rupees . . . and mea mumbled. There was no ne explain who 'he' was.

"Does he? Well, come to thirteen rupees plus food," o Govind and Nanu was won ov

For a day only. K. Dan rais offer to fifteen rupees and went back taking care not to his face to Govind. And Govin not dare to offer more.

Govind found that loyalt eminently purchasable and labour force soon reduced solitary helper who had been his father and who seeme harbour highly impracticable uncommercial principles tha even K. Dan's generous offers corrupt.

In a short while, Govind h face attacks from other fronts day his faithful servant re empty-handed from the fish-m

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servant announced.

"Could you not offer more?"

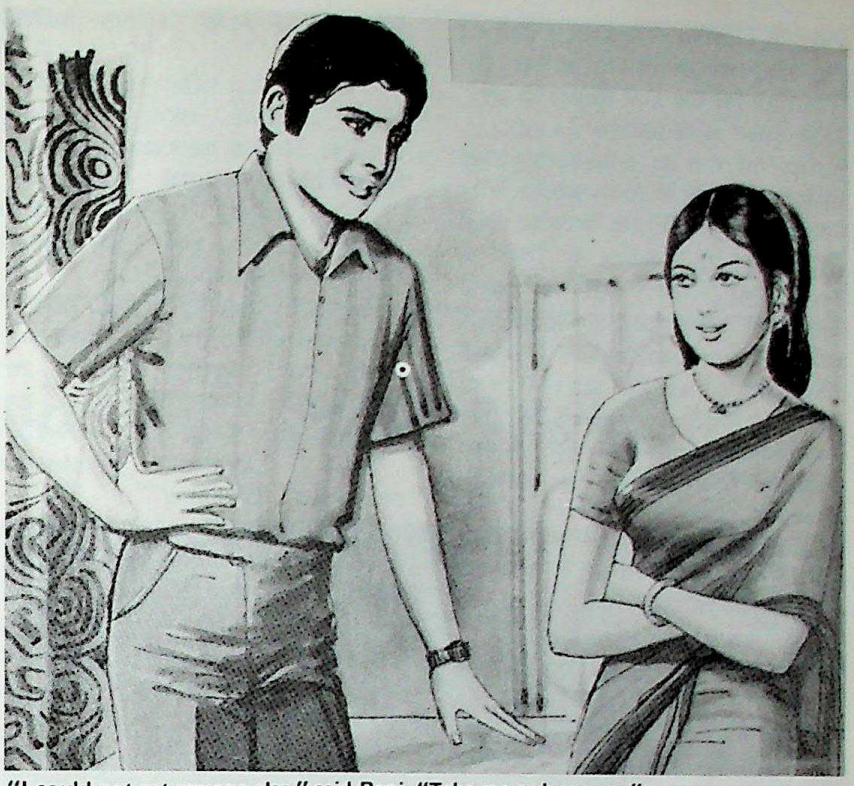
"How much more, master? There he comes with all his followers just as we had fixed a price and I am about to take the fish, he asks for it. "How much?" The merchant said, 'It is sold' – 'But not paid for, is it?' he counters. 'How much is it?' The merchant says, 'Seven rupees', whereas we had fixed up four rupees for the lot. 'Take fifteen and pack it for me.' Who can resist such an offer, master? And how can I better it? Had I, he would have doubled that too!"

As with fish, so with meat and vegetables. And the village was by no means alone. Govind soon found out that in the neighbouring town too prices were reigning intolerably high. And no wonder : against one K. Dan of his village, the town had a hundred that sweeped down on its meagre resources and outrageously outbid each other.

K. Dan's palatial building eating up ten times the steel and concrete and paints required for a standard building, rapidly took shape. His garden lands and paddy fields hummed with life as scores of high-paid labourers worked there all day long and spent the nights in revelry. Govind's holding looked deserted. He worked harder than ever, but could not help leaving the major part of his holdings. There was none to work for the wages he was prepared to offer.

Yet another shock was in store for Govind. He found that the defection was not restricted to the lower ranks. One day he went to the house of his friend or rather his father's companion and found that the worthy were away at K. Dan's paying court.

Padman had been Govind's father's life-long companion. Of late he was facing tough times – much of his property had been disposed of, and he was living in abject poverty. He was on the look out for a job for his daughter as the only way out of his financial difficulties. Govind was against this,



"I could not get anyone else," said Rani. "Take me or leave me."

there had been a sort of understanding when his father was alive, that Padman's daughter was to be Govind's future wife. But as the gap between the financial status of the two families visibly widened, there was less and less talk of this, though Govind still cherished in his innermost heart a determination to wed Rani when the time came.

It was Rani who brought him abreast of the developments. She seemed to be strictly neutral. She discussed the latest preoccuptation of her father with unbiased objectivity and Govind found himself secretly desiring her to take his side.

"Why should he demean himself like this?" he asked in exasperation. "He can't forget who Kandan is."

"He can, brother Govind," she said without passion. "For instance, he has forgotten our old status and standing. He lives in the present."

"And yet, to be that fellow's hanger . . . on . . . "

" 'Not' hanger-on!" defended Rani with spirit. "You know daddy is an expert in building techniques. He has made his knowledge available to Kan . . . er . . . K. Dan," she finished lamely, confused as to which name to use.

Her use of the new name filled Govind with an inexplicable rage. "K. Dan, indeed!" he spluttered.

"Daddy was also talking of disposing his plot of garden land adjacent to the house," Rani said. "He can't cultivate it and why let it lie fallow?"

"To Kandan?"

"To whoever is prepared to pay the market price," Rani said defensively.

Govind returned home, his mind seething with bitter thoughts. He could not tolerate the neutral stance of Rani. The whole village was against him, and soon Rani too, perhaps.

Soon after he met Rani's father, and that worthy, a trace of guilt, admitted he was selling his land to K. Dan . . . " He has offered me two hundred rupees per cent above the market rate," he revealed. "Why should I refuse?"

Govind had no effective answer. Anywhere, there was no time for a considered protest: the fellow was in a great hurry and took hasty

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leave of Govind. "K. Dan is waiting for me; we have to select the furniture for the new house today," he shouted as he hastened away.

Govind was in a towering rage against the whole Arab world. Why should the profligate nitwits spoil our people by offering ten times as much as the fellows here deserved? Obviously to make life miserable for people like Govind! May their oil wells go dry! May our wells in Ankleshwar and Bombay outproduce them and get all the markets! There was no fear here. In India we know the exact worth of Indian labour and won't spoil them by overpayment!

Govind thought he was at the nadir of his miserable existence, but he was mistaken. Word spread that K. Dan had not offered more for his friend's land out of altruism. Padman's fair daughter was his long-time target, and Padman was reportedly not at all averse to the proposal, it was rumoured. And visual corroboration was not long in coming.

Govind seldom met K. Dan face to face, but when he did, there was such a supercilious expression in the other's face that Govind felt like flying at his throat to snuff out that air of smugness once for all. That day he was approaching Padman's house to pay a routine visit when he saw K. Dan's brand new Ambassador in the courtyard. He was about to retrace his steps, when he saw K. Dan coming out of the house wreathed in smiles, with a servile Padman dancing attendance. Rani brought up the rear and she too was smiling. She stood waving as the car gathered speed and disappeared round the bend.

Govind walked up to Rani. She welcomed him and enquired after his affairs.

"What did Kandan tell you?" Govind demanded.

Rani was a little embarrassed when she said after a moment's silence, "Well, he was offering me a job in his factory."

"His factory?"

"Don't you know? He is going to start a soap factory in the village."

"He did not offer you anything else?" Govind asked in heavy sarcasm. He was now sure that what he had heard was true.

Rani merely replied with a demure glance, and then asked: "How goes the work?"

Govind suddenly looked utterly tired and dispirited. "I have too many odds against me. I am fighting a losing battle. I am surrendering."

Rani looked genuinely concerned, "Meaning?"

"Kandan has been having his eye on my land all along. He shall have his wish. I am selling out and moving . . . to the town." All fight seemed to have gone out of them.

"Look here," said Rani after a few moments' embarrassing silence. "I know you are short of hands. Suppose I arrange for a new hand?"

"He will go to Kandan next day," said Govind listlessly.

"Don't lose your battle before fighting," said Rani with sympathy. "Try him and see."

"No, it is too late." Suddenly Govind was filled with an overwhelming sense of futility. Nothing mattered any more. He took perfunctory leave of Rani and wended his way to K. Dan's new house.

The house-warming ceremony seemed to be in full swing. Everyone had a glass in his hands and uniformed bearers from the town went about refilling glasses.

Kandan recognised Govind's stooping figure and came forward with studied indifference "You!" He said and then, "Care to have a peg?"

"Yes," said Govind and avidly caught hold of the offered glass and drank the contents in one gulp.

"Here, Govind, what are you doing?" asked Padman in concern. He knew Govind had been a lifelong teetotaller.

"Can't you see? I am selling out. I am sold out. Even Mahatma Gandhi realised his mistake in the end. Don't you remember what his dying words were? "Hare Hare Rum!"

Govind was now laughing and there was a hysterical to it. He turned to Kandan, can have my lands for wh offer."

The other made a sh indifference. "I will consid

"Good. You can send when you have decided," said, and before the ast Kandan had time for a re walked out on unsteady legs.

Sick in mind and body, fell on his unmade bed a like a log.

It was broad daylight w woke up. The momentary fe freshness gave way to desp when the previous night's i came to his mind one by on

There was movement kitchen. "The new help," thought recalling Rani's "Get me some tea," he calle

The next moment Ran before him with a steaming c

"You!" After a mome thought it was the new he promised to arrange," he lamely.

"And who said it is not?" asked and suddenly she smil her eyes shone with unwep "I could not get anyone e here I am. Take me or leave m

For a few dazed momen world stood still. And then G hair dishevelled, eyes bloo leapt to his feet and gather frail form to his breast.

"Leave you, my darling? I will fight. I won't sell out you at my side, all the wea Arabia cannot shake me."

And for the first time si had begun to know her found Rani's body shaking sobs.

Courtesy: Caravan

Large scale emmigration Indians to the Middle East given birth to a new wa story writing. The story bel an example.

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Spotlight:

S. Chitra

Tansen Award For N. P. Seshadri

It was most appropriate that the 'First Miyan Tansen Award' was presented to a colourful personality who has combined in himself various qualities and scholarship. Mr. Navneetham Padmanabha Seshadri, who hails from the Tyagaraja soil and whose family for decades conducted the famous Tyagaraja Festival at Tiruvaiyaru, made the cultural life of Delhi very rich by his extraordinary organising caprats of cultural festivals for the last three decades in honour of the musical savants like Tyagaraja, Purandaradasa, Tansen and others. Every festival he had organised was so popular that the public of Delhi always looked forward eagerly the presentation by Seshadri who always brought originality and aesthetic styles. Presenting the award the Vice President Mr. B.D. Jatti said "Dr. Seshadri is a distinguished organiser of cultural events and a devoted music lover. As Secretary of National Cultural Organisation he has been organising the Tansen Music Festival for quarter of century. This is an event which is eagerly awaited every year." Dr. Seshadri is a senior civil servant now holding the post of Joint Development Commissioner for Handlooms where also he has given a new turn for the marketing of handlooms, with the result there is more impact throughout the country about the utility of handlooms."

It was Dr. Seshadri who along with his Holiness Shri Ramanuja

The Vice-President of India Mr. B.D. Jatti conferred the "First Miyan Tansen Award" on Dr. N. P. Seshadri, a distinguished cultural organiser, musicologist and administrator in recognition of his outstanding services to the cause of Indian music and Culture and in particular for organising the prestigious Tansen Music Festival in New Delhi for the last 25 years. Dr. Seshadri is the Founder-Secretary of National Cultural Organisation and is now Joint Development Commissioner for Handlooms under Government of India. The awards instituted by Dhrupad Society in honour of Swami Haridas and Miyan Tansen were presented to Ustad Aminuddin Dagar and Dr. Seshadri at a colourful function held at the India International Centre, New Delhi.

Narayana Jeeyar Swami of Tirupathi organised the memorable Akhila Bharatiya Veda Vidwat Sammelan at Ramlila grounds, New Delhi in April 1973 in which more than 2000 vedic scholars took part. In the citation it was said 'Sustaining the common man's interest in music and promoting and fostering integrated musical forms are the two aspects which are dear to Seshadri. He has literally carried music – that too the haunting soulful music, such as that of Ustad Bismillah Khan to the masses populating the far flung suburbs of Delhi. It is a standing testimony to the organising zeal and spirited service towards the cause of music and dance in the capital that Seshadri has carved out a niche in the public of the country. Seshadri who is an outstanding organiser, writer, musician,

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administrator and playwright has been doing excellent service in the cultural life of the country."

The very fact there was an over flowing audience consisting of eminent jurists, administrators, musicians. writers, dancers, eminent medical men, artistes and many others drawn from all walks of life including Maharani of Jaipur Padmini Devi and noted cartoonist Gupulu from Madras was a testimony of Dr. Seshadri's popularity.

President Sanjiva Reddy sent a special message of greetings from Hyderabad. It was most appropriate that the Dhrupad Society also honoured on this occasion the famous Dhrupad musician Ustad Aminuddin Dagar with the 'First Swami Haridas Award.' He is the oldest living musician so eminent in dhrupad.

Dr. Seshadri on this occasion expressed his gratitude to Prof. Humayan Kabir and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who assisted him in starting the Tansen festival. It was also due to the efforts of Dr. Seshadri that two roads were named in New Delhi by NDMC after Tansen and Tyagaraja.

Another hobby of Dr. Seshadri is astropalimistry. When the whole nation was worried about Lok Nayak Jayaprakash's illness, Dr. Seshadri emphatically predicted that there was no danger at all.

Dr. Seshadri is a senior Central official and new Joint Development Commissioner for Handlooms under Govt of India. He has given a new dimension to the marketing programme with the result there is now more appreciation of Indian Handlooms throughout the world. The Moscow Handloom Exhibition he had organised was universally acclaimed.

The veteran Shehnai maestro Ustad Bismillah Khan who has been participating in the Tansen Festival organised by him for the last 25 years says that 'whenever Seshadri Saheb organises a festival, I give my best. (Me Dil Bajathum).' Can there be a more fitting tribute?

OLDEST IN EAST

* * * * *

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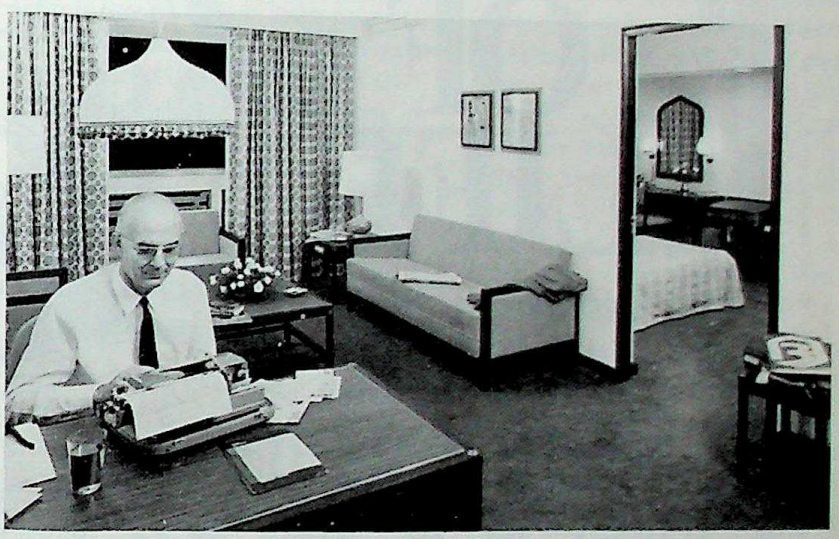
A landmark of India's capital city, New Delhi, Ashoka Hotel combines in itself the diversity that is India: its rich heritage, its colourful products and its friendly people. One of the first five-star hotels to be built in north India, it is the last word in luxury and comfort. The pink mass of the Ashoka rises against a backdrop of blue skies like a palace of Rajasthan.

Named after the great Indian emperor Ashoka, the hotel offers 486 luxurious rooms and suites. It is centrally air-conditioned and the rooms are tastefully furnished with colourful fabrics. The Ashoka offers 24-hour room service, very much personalised. (The tariff for these luxury rooms ranges from Rs. 290 for a single room to Rs 800 for a deluxe suite.) Each suite has a different name. The one named after queen Noor Jehan has been done in the opulent style of the Mughal period. The largest and most luxurious of the suites is the commodious Presidential Suite, which has lodged Presidents, kings and other visiting celebrities.

The splendid Ashoka and its acres of landscaped gardens are part of New Delhi's exclusive Chanakyapuri, the diplomatic enclave where most of the embassies are located. The Ashoka complex itself is enjoyed by excited visitors taking a joy ride on elephant back around it.

5-STAR COMFORT



A suite that spells luxury.

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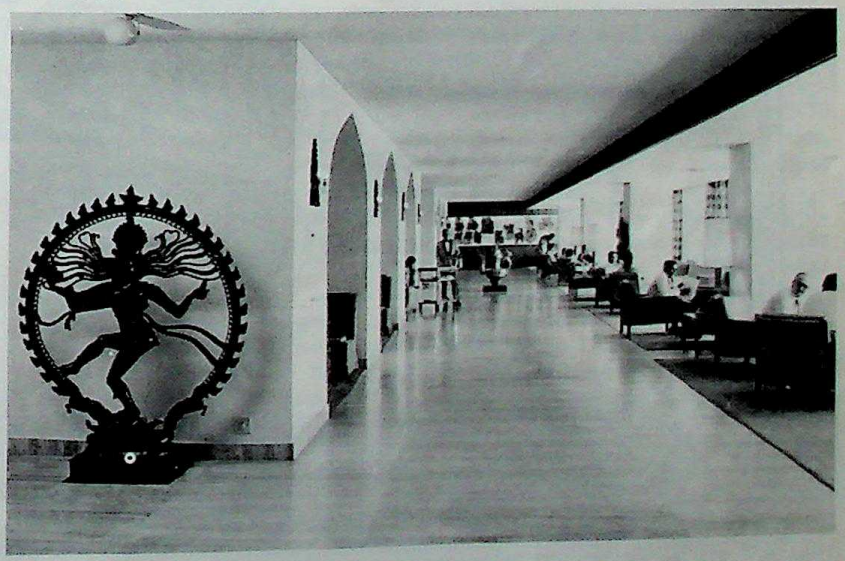

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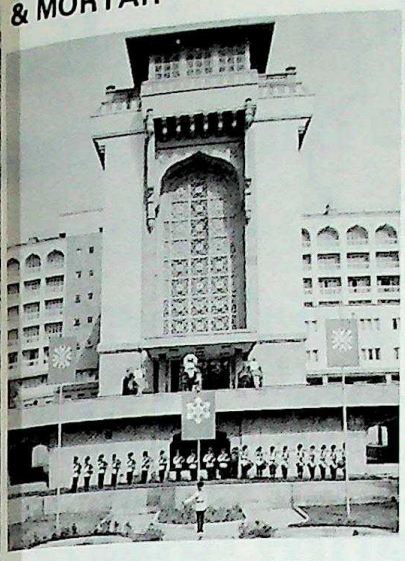
ELEGANCE IN BRICK & MORTAR



Ashoka's facade is palatial

LARGEST IN ASIA

The hotel has the largest and best equipped convention hall in the whole of Asia, with a seating capacity of 2400. It was here that PATA '78 (the annual conference of the Pacific Area Travel Association) was held, followed in 1979 by the equally important (to the world travel) meet of SATW – the Society of American Travel Writers. A number of international conferences at the Ashoka are in the offing. On each occasion, the General Manager, Mr. P.B. Mathur and his resourceful staff, stand up to the challenge. Facilities for simultaneous translation in six languages and secretarial services are provided. The convention hall is equipped with sophisticated light and sound arrangements, an adjustable stage and other facilities.

The theatre in Ashoka Hotel is frequently the venue of dance and music festivals, and gives the guests a taste of the cultural diversity of India. The Entertainment Executive, Mr. Jaspal Singh, is busy round the clock organising these events. Graceful Bharata Natyam, colourful tribal dances, recitals of classical Indian music, are regularly held. And for those visitors who are interested in Indian art, the art gallery in the Ashoka exhibits and sells the works of leading contemporary Indian artists.

FACILITIES GALORE

The Ashoka has a fine shopping arcade, that displays the finest of India's crafts and skills; silks and brocades; jewels and antiques; brassware and stones. To shop here is a unique experience for the visitor. Other facilities at the Ashoka Hotel include a beauty parlour, a Yoga centre, a barber shop, florist, post and telegraph services, banks, airlines and travel agencies' counters. Guests can have their future read by an astro-palmist!

Known for a highly streamlined and efficient service, the hotel has five restaurants and eating in any one of them is a delightful experience – a gourmet's delight, in fact. The Samovar is a 24-hour coffee shop and the open-air Bar-e-Kabab serves the choicest barbecued dishes. For lovers of sports, there is a mini golf course, well maintained tennis courts and a sunlit swimming pool reflecting the blue of the sky. The Ashoka Hotel has facilities to take its guests on tours of the historic city of Delhi, as well as to Agra and Jaipur. Air-conditioned cars and luxury coaches are available at the ITDC car Rental and Tours counter in the Hotel.

The Ashoka is one of the six hotels of the India Tourist Development Corporation in Delhi – and 34 other hotels in the major cities of India. (All these are de-luxe affairs, radiant with traditional Indian hospitality.) Its profits have gone up under the present energetic General Manager, Mr. P.B. Mathur.

Ashoka Hotel is a 'Home away from Home'. The guest can walk through tropical gardens, linger near the lotus pool, visit an art gallery, spend an evening at the Theatre, or just sit in one of the comfortable lounges over a quiet drink and watch the whole world go by!

RUPEE VALUE DECLINES BY 80% IN 30 YEARS

The value of the rupee was less than 20 paisa in 1977 as compared to 1947 measured by the wholesale price index, according to the Economic and Scientific Research Foundation in New Delhi.

In two volumes on its research work, the Foundation has linked together the wholesale price statistics indexes with different bases into one continuous series spanning the period 1947-78.

The volumes present comparable data for groups, sub-groups and commodities separately on standard industrial classification basis with 1961-62, 1952-53 and August, 1939, as bases.

It is revealed that the prices of commodities generally have risen by 5.2 times, of food 5.1 times, of minerals 19.2 times and of manufactured products 4.8 times. Price indexes for even very small commodities such as ragi, turmeric, salt, mica, caustic soda, lime, motor vehicles etc, have been worked out, and point-to-point compound rates of growth converting the 1947-48 to 1977-78 period up to sub-group level have been presented by the research group.

The general wholesale prices increased at a compound annual rate of 5.7 per cent over the whole period 1947-48 to 1977-78 and at a much faster rate – 7.6 per cent – in the last decade. Corresponding inflation rates for food articles were 5.6 and 7.0 per cent, for fuel, power and lubricants 6.2 and 9.9. per cent, for manufactures 5.4 and 7.2, respectively. Economic development in the Fifties and Sixties was achieved under more stable price conditions than in the seventies.

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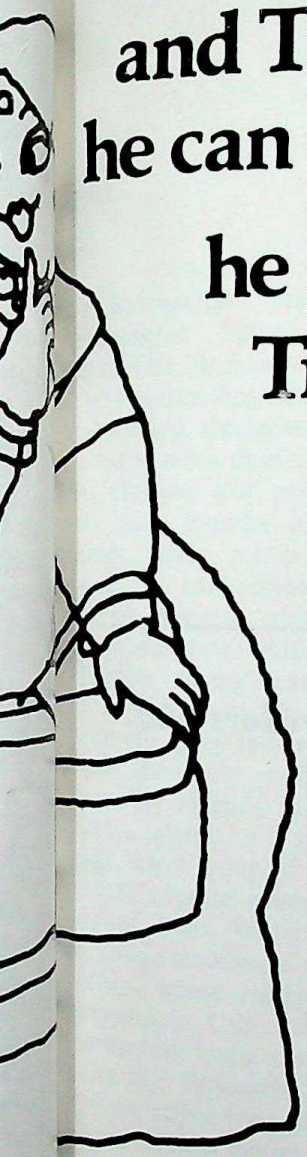
If dreaming up an arithmetical solution to longer with excess baggage, and re-checking the Load and Trim Sheet of a Boeing, he can still balance the balance sheet...

he must be an Air-India Traffic Officer.



A mathematical wizard, our Airport Traffic Officer. Figures love him, always besiege him. And he's never quite himself without them. Kilos, grams, flight timings, 'jet-lags'.

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Faiz Ahmed Faiz

By Carolyn Sharma

It was nearly a year ago when the eminent Urdu poet, Faiz Ahmed Faiz, decided to take on a bit of overdue long-distance travel. What ensued thereafter, however, resulted in more than a few trips of brief duration but extended into many long months of distanced comings and goings ("moving around", in his modestly-put description), portions of which were still ongoing at this writing.

Initially taking leave in mid-1978 from his home in Lahore, the 67-year-old poet laureate set into motion the first of these travel ventures by heading for Tashkent, U.S.S.R., where he was joined by a small, select group of visiting colleagues in a special convening of the Order of Asian Writers Organisation. Long a member of that August assembly, whose headquarters are maintained in Cairo, the dean of contemporary Urdu poets not only sits on the Executive Board but yields an active hand in various of its broadbased activities. It is but a singular role in a prestigious list of many engaged in by the distinguished Lenin International Peace Prize recipient.

When, after some time at Tashkent, Faiz found himself emplaned once more, his point of direction was not homeward bound but enroute to what was to be a rare visit to India. The one-time Indian Army officer had been asked to make the journey at the invitation of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations. Joined there by his British wife, Aliys, of many years, he embarked on a whirlwind two-month cultural tour of India that included the likes of Amritsar, Chandigarh, Jullundur, Allahabad, Lucknow, Delhi, and numerous places elsewhere – many of them locales being revisited after a very long time. One such point of reference was in Amritsar and environs, where in times past Faiz had applied the earliest of his avocations as a teacher of English literature – doing so as a young graduate just completing his M.A. in English and Arabic literature. This latest revisit therefore bore with it such imprints of the nostalgic as to retrace like reflections for both the hosted and his hosts. And what with the ubiquitous settings of many a poetic, *ghazal*-sung evening, among other delights, the very gist of the tour proved an eventful occasion, by all accounts, that abounded in much artistic flourish. It might even be said to have echoed the reminiscence with which the poet himself once wrote some of his most quoted lines, opening passages of which begin –

Suddenly all those days return,
All the youthful days.
That died in your midst,
That have been waiting in limbo,
Are born again
Each time the roses.
Bare themselves in bloom . . (*).

Such poetic writings of Faiz Ahmed Faiz have long endeared him as one among few so ardently admired and beloved among Indians and Pakistanis everywhere. Connoisseurs of Urdu literature in general and poetic Urdu in particular share in common with their less erudite brethren a special bond of acquaintanceship in recognizing and relating to the fineness of his art. Therein is also enjoined so much of the true essence brought to bear in the acknowledged qualities of this doyen of Urdu letters.

As can readily be surmised, wherever the travels of the *ghazal*-inspiring Faiz take him, he is always unanimously called on for recitations and readings from his extensive repertoire of works. In India, certainly, the occasion for Faiz-admirers to have him in their midsts over a two-month-long stay was as welcome a sojourn as it was an infrequent treat. Voicing like reflections, Faiz expressed overwhelmingly his similarly shared sentiment, when asked.

But if, as is said, all good things must come to an end, so the inevitable had its place as, reluctantly, the Faiz sojourn in India drew to a

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close. Besides, there were others still, included among them other Indian and Pakistani fans elsewhere, who, in their turn, also anxiously awaited his presence. So it developed that from India, where he took leave of his wife, who subsequently returned to their home in Pakistan, the much-in-demand Faiz set to the winds by alighting his 'magic carpet' of travel, as it were, to be briskly whisked off in a Canada-bound direction.

Enroute stopovers notwithstanding, the touring poet-scholar soon found himself well ensconsed on the North American continent – another rarity of sorts – and all to the great satisfaction of his many well-wishers there. Canada, alone, boasts a wide contingency of 'Faiz fans' of all strata, who, after a long, impatient wait, could hardly have been more pleased to at last welcome their renowned guest. In due course, he found himself pleasantly taken up with all the bustle of cultural calls and tour-abouts, pleasing the while all who met with and encountered him.

For all his written and spoken eloquence, and for all the attendent success it has brought, the personal side of Faiz Ahmed Faiz reflects a man remarkably unaffected in manner. Beneath the soft-spoken, reflective veneer is imparted a richly-synthesized earthiness and rustic charm that is not without its genteel aspects. He is a convivial man by nature who enjoys relating both to and with people of all walks of life, and who is in turn as easily and readily taken to. Notwithstanding his scholar and artistry, however, he is by no means lacking in gusto. The keen, observant eyes speak to you as vividly as the hearty timbre of his baronial voice. What complements this special Faiz *panache* is a certain knowing, inner presence that is ever-attendant, ever in command. It is conveyed in a subtle, pervading aura of elegance . . . a quiet, simple elegance of studied simplicities, and whose very reserves serve to underscore their presence in the fine

To a rept audience, Poet Faiz delivers in Urdu some of his well-known poetry ing some of the repeated demands for his personal recitation. On the dais, (seated), is EWC Pakistan Participants Association President Rana Akhlaq.

polish of his personal poise. Yet, there is nothing of the ostentatious, nothing of the high-flung. There is only the demeanor of a wisened, 'been-there-and-back' sagacity now mellowed to a classic vintage. Golden, indeed, is the wine of this master poet.

While still in Canada and caught up in the flurry of professional and private callings, Faiz was thus persuaded to extend his stay by a number of busily engaged-in weeks-weeks that repeat themselves invariably wherever he happens to go. Because of his broad range of educational and cultural interests, certain of which figure largely of late among his most time-divested pastimes, he was frequently sought by various of Canada's cultural and academic groups to address, confer, and exchange ideas. But hardly, of course, to the exclusion of the individual friends and admirers who number among his special league of devoted fans.

As is often said among Faiz-*aficianados*, an opportunity to hear the poetry of Faiz Ahmed Faiz recited by Faiz himself is an experience not to be missed! And 'not to be missed' indeed was what his admirers in the U.S. had in mind at this point. Thus, when C next-door neighbor came kn the 'magic carpet' respond another lift-off, taking fli time to speed passenger Fai the United States.

By now, the rigours of t the touring literary artist only just beginning. Not on there those on the mainland Continental U.S. who ha awaited him in visit, but eve in its outer-most reache extend all the way to Hawa result, a cross-country cultur got underway that was ma sible through the travel auspices of the JDR 3rd F John D. Rockefeller III). the pace of things were some earliest stopping points m New York and elsewhere al East Coast, including Wash D.C. It was only the secon ever to the U.S. for Faiz, the first in his capacity as t brated poet that he is. The U.S. trip, made some 30 ye back in 1948, had brought California shores in a briefly ed capacity as a delegate re ing Pakistan's organized labo with the International Organization (ILO). Taking

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Francisco and its nearby environs, the visit came at a time when he was closely aligned with the Pakistan Trade Union Federation, of which he subsequently became vice president (a post since relinquished). This latest U.S. venture, therefore, resulted in being not only more far-reaching in distance covered, but considerably more extensive in time spent and people reached, among numerous other plus factors. Being one of the leading poets of the day, after all, has its obvious advantages. But apart from the apparent, the real benefits in large measure were the advantages reaped by the scores of U.S. – residing admirers of Faiz who, in their mindful appreciation of having him on hand, made much of their good fortune while it lasted. Little wonder, then, that the traveling 'magic carpet' was made to touch down with great frequency in its course to accomodate the repeated demands for Faiz' presence as he threaded his way cross-country.

By the time he reached the likes of Iowa-hardly the glamour capital of the world but where is situated one of the most distinguished writer's centers in the country-Faiz was obliged to make good on an invitation accepted to sit in on an internationally-styled roundtable. The by-invitation-only gathering included a host of prominent modern-day writers of all genres, ome from as far distant as South America, Africa, the Orient, and lsewhere. Within the assemblage vere many who were meeting with akistan's latter-day gift to the iterary world for the first time. For thers, particularly those of the ounger generations, it was both a irst-encounter with the nature of rdu literature and the related oetry of Faiz Ahmed Faiz. For the eteran poet himself, such instances lways serve their own purpose in alue for the opportunities they fford in acquainting the unfamiliar ith his and the related criteria of thers comprising Indic literature, nd with which the uninitiated are,

Poet Faiz Sabh takes in tropical poetry of Hawaii's flora and clime during island sojourn in Honolulu.

Photos: Carolyn Sharma

unfortunately, otherwise out of contact. Such occasions, as they bear reference to lessening the Asian literary gap in certain parts of the West, are of special interest to Faiz, personally, who perceives (and most clearly) the great lack of exchange cultivated at the linguistic and literary plateaux. Of Urdu, he cites as too little the influences exercised among the Western-residing Urdu literati, and sees this as one of the reasons underlying the lack of exposure to it. In this much overlooked need, he calls for filling the void by broadening the availability of the cultural, linguistic, and subsequent literary features inherent in Urdu, from which would follow as a matter of course its appeal of influence. In so doing, it can only be envisioned that the benefits reaped would eventually unfold in the most synthesizing way. Interchange, after all, results in a reverberation of sorts where mutual enrichment generally comes into play. And of such matches, indeed, there is much to gain.

With the input of Faiz Ahmed Faiz plunged in the heart of Iowa, there is little doubt that the group encounter conducted there did much to isolate the impact left, as indeed it might anywhere. The positive, long-range effects of such encounters are sure to be seen as lasting. Particularly where left by the master touch of Faiz.

But further such interchanges were not far off. On leaving the Midwest to take in California and the rest of the West Coast (where he stayed on for some time and was widely hailed), Faiz then responded to the hard-won summons to present himself in the tropical islands of Hawaii. And with 'carpet' intact, he headed across the Pacific to set down for a first-time stay in Honolulu. The five-week island lull that ensued came at the bidding of the prestigious East-West Center, where he was invited by the EWC Culture Learning Institute to take part in a workshop of Asian-Pacific poets. Meeting anew with some 18 international colleagues, he led the field of the writers and poets selected to be on hand from Bangladesh (Bengali poet Mohammad Moniruzzaman), Sri Lanka (playwright-poet Ediwiria Sarachchandra, and Australia's Yasmine Gooneratne), Malaysia (poet-scholar Mohammad Haji Salleh), Fiji (Indian writer Subramani), and numerous names and places from elsewhere in the Asia-Pacific regions, including the U.S. Despite that by this time there was the new year of 1979 well underway, and Faiz was not only many miles but many months away from his point of origin, the talks conducted stirred his interest and elicited his input as together they discussed "The Interaction of Cultures in Modern Literature (Poetry)." Many of the ideas to run through the conference, which lasted through late-February of this year, revolved around poetry as an artistic expression of the harmonies and discords created by cultural encounter. A subject in which Faiz is quite at home, it reflected the kinds of impact he himself has left behind in previous such confabs, of which he has attended many. During his non-conference hours while in Hawaii,

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he was prevailed upon, as always, to come forth with his poetry recitations, both privately and publicly, and to which he complied on several occasions during his stay. The delight of his audiences, which, in most instances were linguistically mixed, was added to by the accompaniment of two American colleagues (poets Naomi Lazard and Carolyn Kizer) who served as translators of his Urdu recitations into English. Their able translations, often engaging twofold the bilingual Urdu-English speaking among his audiences, were as spell-binding as their original versions. One such, titled *Elegy*, begins –

I don't have the courage to look,
But each time I pass that way,
A pain in my heart slows my steps.
It says the gate is still open.
Desire without hope
Is still sleeping in the courtyard,
And in some corner, half hidden,
There is memory. A heartbroken child with outstretched arms,
My heart implores – Let's go away
To some far place
Where no gate opens to futility,
No man only crouches, holding his beggar's bowl,
Where none of the wolves know the ecstacy
Of longing for the beloved face,
And no shadows grieve for flowers. That once were there . . . (*).

While Faiz is himself quite the expert in English, including a number of other languages, as well, he prefers to recite his poetry as he composes it – primarily in Urdu, and/or more recently in Punjabi. This, he asserts, is in contrast to his specified usage of certain of the other languages in which he is knowledgeable, which, besides Urdu, Punjabi, and English, include Arabic, Russian, Turkish, et al. When employing his journalistic pen, for instance, which he wields as strongly though less frequently now than formerly, it is always done in English, he says. He is also an adept translator of both modern and classical works and, as such, has a broad appreciation of the values and pitfalls inherent in the translating arts. He has transposed into Urdu many works of outstanding poets of Turkish, Russian, Persian, English, and others. He is uniquely as linguistic a scholar as he is a creative force . . . an apt if not remarkable combination of talents for anyone.

The poetry of Faiz has itself seen translation in a wide divergence of languages – as much so as any poet on the literary scene today. Perhaps even more so. At present, his published works, which include six books of poetry and three in prose, appear in English, French, Russian, Hungarian, Czech, Farsi, Arabic, Hindi, and other languages, with ongoing translations still in the making. Concommitantly, he contributes in like manner to the values of literature with his translations of other poets and writers into Urdu. In so doing, he has greatly advanced the invaluable literary, educational, and cultural legacies of present generations and those to come with his wealth of contributions. His is a combined application of broad linguistic knowledge and fine creative talents in the written arts.

Notwithstanding all its lovely island appeal, alas, Hawaii, too, was eventually made to bid a reluctant *aloha* to the visiting poet emeritus. Other invitations awaited, it seems – among the most immediate of which was in Addis Ababa, and about which, at last word, he was still undecided. It is to the wiles of 'carpet travel', perhaps, that one must look to foretell where the 'magic carpet' might land next. Meanwhile, there is to be savoured the golden wine so briefly sipped.

Of this golden wine, however, not all of the grapes to have gone into its making have been sweet; there are the dry, the not-so-sweet, that have necessarily served to embody this rare-vintage make-up. Created, in retrospect, in 1911, they began in Sialkot, where Faiz was born, in what is now Pakistan. His many-faceted career was s... in teaching. He taught E... literature both in Amritsa... Lahore, publishing his first b... poetry in 1941. Joining the m... that same year (essentially t... at the time as the British ... Army), he rose to the ra... lieutenant colonel. By 1947 ... become editor-in-chief of th... lish-language newspaper, *The ... tan Times*, the widely-circ... daily which was to spiral un... tutelage into the largest new... chain in the country. He re... at the helm until 1951. Sti... the journalist at heart, even n... continues to write the occa... article and essay when ... permits.

Faiz has, over the years, ... many hats and espoused ... causes – some resulting in hi... twice jailed, in 1953 and a... 1959. He wrote prolifically ... these respective confin... producing in some instances ... his best-known works. The ... capacities he has filled thro... the years have included ... principal of Abdullah ... College, Chairman of the P... National Council of Arts, Sc... of the Pakistan Peace Com... and until recently, Cultural A... to the Government of Pakis... was pivoted to internationa... in 1962 when, as Pakistan ... poet laureate, he was award... Lenin International Peace Pri...

Through it all, however, h... in writing has never ceased ... active. At present, in addition ... wide-ranging interests in c... and academic affairs, he fin... to act in numerous imp... capacities in national and i... tional organizations. These ... the Executive Board of the ... Peace Council and an active ... the function of UNESCO, ... others. (UNESCO has also p... ed an English-language vol... *Poems by Faiz.)*

Perhaps best described ... 'people's poet' Faiz Ahme... enacts the complex integrati... of spokesman of every man.

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his art express, divest, inspire, articulate, and even protest what few can say as eloquently. Poetically, his is a profound art form that leaves nothing unsought and untouched by the sensibilities, engaging both the mind and the soul in a matching encounter of artistry. It is in this respect that he is a 'poet's poet', as well, inspiring what is so deftly wrought by his clarity of syntax, his embodiment of the emotions, and the ability to calm or set astir the soul. Whether poetically versed, whether adept or not, few can help but identify with, relate to, or be inspired by such offerings as

On this night is the tree of pain
Greater than you or me;
Greater because,
In its thicket of branches, A thousand candlebearing stars
Have lost their way.
In this tree's shadow,
Another thousand rooms
Have wept the last of their light,
This night of the black of hell
....(*).

While no one theme predominates the range of concerns taken up by the poetry of Faiz, the breadth and depth with which the expression evoked communicates is alone as inexorably responded to as the range of perceptivity of the reader/listener permits. Given such capacities to transform and superimpose whatever the objectivity of the subjective, there can only result a true communion, as it were, of the thoughts, the sensitivities, and the spirit conveyed between the composer and his audience. These enjoin the qualities of greatness in literature, for all literature bespeaks the qualities of its writers. The greats of the past have been followed and will continue to be by those of tomorrow. Within that vast, rich literature of Urdu, however, there is today the mark of a great poet's presence. It is therefore in the greatness of today wherein is found the grand poetic mastery of one Faiz Ahmed Faiz. It is therefore in the literature of tomorrow where the name Faiz Ahmed Faiz will also remain.

(*) The poem excerpts herein quoted in English are adapted after the Faiz-approved translations of Naomi Lazard. – C.S.

INDIANS NOW LIVE LONGER

The average life expectancy of the Indian people has increased by 20 years during the period of independence, figures furnished to the Lok Sabha by Mr. Rabi Ray, health minister, show.

The minister told Mr. Ram Vilas Paswan that the expert committee on population had estimated that the expectation of life at birth for the quinquennial 1976-81 was estimated at 52.6 years for a baby boy and 51.6 years for a baby girl.

This compared to 32.5 years in 1946, 41.9 in 1956 and 46.4 in 1966 for males, and 31.7 in 1946, 40.6 in 1956 and 44.7 in 1966 for females.

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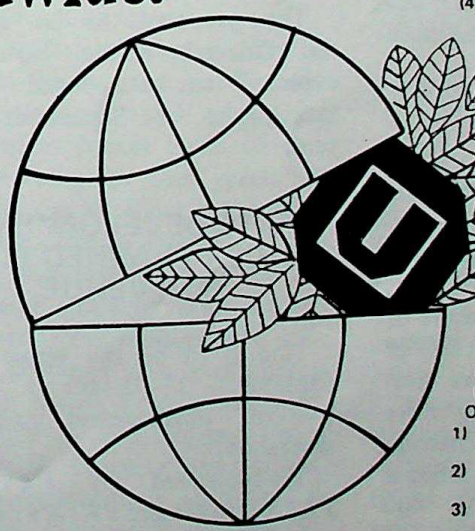

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Tours & Travel

PATEL ELECTED SKAL BOMBAY CHIEF

Mr. Surendra Patel (above), sales manager, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka for Czechoslovak Airlines (CSA) in Bombay, and vice-president of the Skal Club of Bombay, has been elected the club's president.

He succeeds Mr. R.N. Pradhan, deputy commercial manager, sales and marketing for Indian Airlines, who has been promoted the airline's commercial manager in Calcutta.

NEW HOTEL IN GOA

Tourism in Goa will get a boost in October with the addition of 50 rooms in Hotel Fldalgo, a five-star rater, in the centre of Panaji.

According to an industry source, the Union Territory falls short of five-star accommodation by at least 300 rooms. The three five-star hotel now functioning there provide totally 315 rooms. Accommodation in hotel of lower rating is also inadequate with only 400 rooms available, the source said.

DARUWALLA JOINS ARAB HOTEL FIRM

Mr. Rusi M. Daruwalla who recently retired as vice-president, operations, of the Taj Mahal Inter-Continental Hotel in Bombay, has been appointed director of the Bahrain-based Arab Hotels and Catering Company.

The firm, which owns and manages the Hotel Bristol in Bahrain, is currently building a five-star hotel in the country.

The property, to be named the Oriental Palace Hotel, is expected to be opened either in August or September this year.

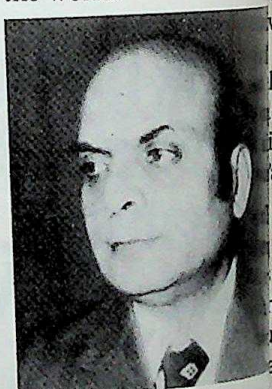
PATA DEVELOPMENT STUDY PLANNED FOR GOA VENUE

Goa is to be the venue from September 18-20 for a PATA tourism development planning workshop.

Co-sponsored by the India PATA chapter and PATA's development authority, workshop talks will focus on planning in Bang India, Nepal, Pakistan a Lanka.

OBJECTIVES

Workshop objectives, a to PATA staff vice-presid Ken Chamberlain, will be t the nature and volume of demand in the region; to opportunities for regional c tion; to demonstrate development policies an results in other Asian countr to discuss "ways in which Asian countries can take ad of an industry that is becoming the largest single in the world."



C. B. Jain

The meeting was propos year by Mr. C.B. Jain, general of India's Depart Tourism, to follow up o raised at the 1978 annual conference and workshop and Colombo by inves possibilities for regional c tion in tourism development.

Expected attendance September workshop is ab delegates from South a East Asia.

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AIRLINE EXECUTIVE A. F. PINTO DIES

A.F. (Tony) Pinto, Canadian Pacific Airlines Sales Manager, New York and Eastern U.S. since 1975, died suddenly June 23, 1979, at the Sloan Kettering Hospital. He was 55 years old.

Pinto is survived by his wife, Kiss, and four children, Nick, 24, Suzanne, 23, Marianne, 21, and Glen, 14.

His airline career with Air-India and C.P. Air is respectfully recalled by friends and colleagues in New Delhi, Sydney, New York, and Winnipeg, where he joined CP Air in 1972.

He joined Air-India Limited on December 11, 1944, in Bombay.

Oberoi Hotels recently hosted a reception for the travel trade in Bahrain at the Gulf Hotel as part of a sales promotional tour of West Asian countries. Seen at the function are, from the left to right: Mr. A. Siddiqi, general manager of the Oberoi Towers Hotel, Bombay; Mr. Joe Gomes, Air-India manager in Bahrain; Mrs. Toni Siddiqi, public relations manager (Arab guests) at the Oberoi Towers Hotel; Mr. Korotania, assistant director, Government of India Tourist Office; and Mr. Vijay Kaul, sales manager (headquarters), Oberoi Hotels, New Delhi.

PASSPORT RULES LIBERALISED

The rules for the issuance of a passport have been considerably liberalised so that every bona fide Indian citizen may acquire one without any difficulty.

It is no longer necessary to get the character certificate from a deputy secretary or any one with similar rank or a member of Parliament.

The application may be made on prescribed form (only one form required instead of two) with an affidavit that the particulars furnished are correct and the passport will be issued to the applicant within a month.

According to the revised rules, the CID police varification is obtained before the regional passport officer issued the passport. The External Affairs Ministry sources maintain that the CID verification is seldom delayed and applicant harassed.

The RPO, Delhi, is said to have no arrears at all. According to the Government sources, most passports are issued within 21 days. Delay in five per cent cases takes place when particulars furnished have some discrepancy.

The passport may be issued within 48 hours provided the applicant can prove that he is proceeding on an assignment or there is a death or sickness of a close blood relation settled abroad.

AIR HOSTESSES SEEK LEAVE TO MARRY

Four hundred and seventy-five air hostesses in Indian Airlines are faced with a problem – to marry or not to marry.

Last year, in keeping with the spirit of the International Women's Year, their service rules were amended to permit them to marry after working for four years. But the rules denied them the right to become mothers. "Pregnancy is not for an airborne hostess, for the hours and mode of work are too strenuous," the management said.

Ten hostesses have sought permission to marry. Four of them are from Bombay and two each from New Delhi, Calcutta and Madras. The management is surprised at the poor response from their air hostesses which it feels is because of economic reasons. "It has taken me long to make a decision since I have others in the family to support" one of the Delhi girls said.

A girl becomes an air hostess between 18 and 21 and can serve till 35 when she retires. But the age limit has been relaxed to 40 with a provision for a yearly review. As much as 25% of the posts are reserved for those belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

In the past mostly girls belonging to the upper strata of society wanted to become air hostesses. Now they come largely from the middle-income group.

VIZAG – PORT BLAIR STEAMER SERVICE

A direct passenger service from Visakhapatnam to Port Blair by T.S.S. "Nancowry" of the Shipping Corporation of India carrying 575 passengers, commenced on an experimental basis.

Inaugurating the service, the Andhra Pradesh minister for social welfare Mr. Padmanabha Raju, hoped that the service would be made permanent.

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Dr. Raghunath Singh chairman of the corporation, said the direct service from Visakhapatnam would establish a new link with the Andaman islands and facilitate the movement of passengers and cargo.

Dr. Singh disclosed that two more services on a experimental basis would start from Vizag to Port Blair in December and March next year. The question of making these services permanent depended on economic viability, he said.

The chairman of the Vizag Port Trust, Mr. Srinivasan, said the port authorities were proposing to spend about Rs. 3 crores for passenger amenities.

INDIAN AIRLINES PROBLEMS LAID TO 'TINKERING' WITH TOP MANAGEMENT

Indian Airlines, the country's premier airline, has been bedeviled with its own management problems, like its international counterpart, Air-India, according to reports.

The airline's chief executive, Mahesh Chandra Sarin, resigned March 12, and the airline continues to be topless.

"There have been too many changes in the top management of Indian Airlines," said Sarin in a recent interview. "In the last 25 years, the airlines has had no less than 14 managing directors and, if one excludes the terms of Vidya Shankar and Air Chief Marshal Pratap Chandra Lal, who both had relatively long terms as chief executives, the average length of the tenure of each chief executive has been 10 months."

"Successive chief executives have never been given the chance to settle down," continued Sarin, "and these frequent changes at the top level have made any long-term planning and the evolution of a management development or career progression plan impossible.

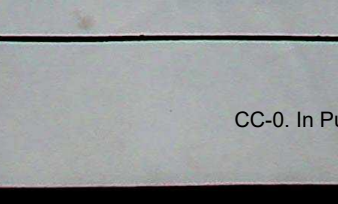
"There is too much tinkering with the top management of the airline and as a consequence some vital posts are left va is reported to have said.

"You couldn't run a shop on that basis, let alo the biggest domestic airlin world," stated an IA o another Indian maga comments on the recent the airline.

GO-AHEAD FO INDIA HOTEL

The board of directo Madhya Pradesh Tourism ment Corporation has construction of a new Khajuraho and has give ahead for tourist cottages and the renovation of bungalow at Gwalior.

The corporation has als to form a transport wing airconditioned and no tioned tourist buses. T would be used to operate ed tours to importan centres in the State.



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Is Indian Airlines Safe?

The crash of an Indian Airlines plane near Pune on August 4 killing all the 45 persons aboard poses a grave question: Is the airline safe to fly?

Since December last the airline has met with three accidents. Three lives were lost in a Boeing crash due to a suspected flap failure at Hyderabad in December. Another Boeing crashlanded in Madras in April this year. However no one was killed.

This was also the third largest tragedy in terms of human casualty. The worst occurred in October 1976 claiming a toll of 95 lives. Fortynine persons had been killed in yet another mishap in Delhi in 1973.

WORST RECORD

The airline has one of the worst records in aviation disaster. Since 1963 tragedy had struck 15 of its planes killing over 400 passengers and crew, bringing the rate of accidents once a year.

Passenger safety assumes added significance since about 5.5 million travel the state-owned airline a year with no other alternative to fly domestically. Indian Airlines is the largest domestic carrier in Asia. Its domestic route network covers over 0,000 kms connecting 61 places. carries 38,000 tons of freight and ,000 tons of mail a year. It has ,000 employees and over 190 services. Every three minutes, between a.m. and 11 p.m. one I.A. plane her takes off or lands.

The accidents also put constraints on the airline itself. The ent loss of two Boeings has used strains on its passenger pacity. They have also reportedly ulted in feud between the operan and maintenance wings – each ming the other for the mishaps.

The airline also draws complaints from other quarters on interruption of flight schedules and inordinate delays. Besides mechanical troubles, bomb scares and 'bird hit' also aggravate the situation. In the five years over 200 I.A. planes were reported to have been hit by birds. Political interference in the administration and intermittent changes in the heirarchy add to the woes of the airline.

The airline is facing a dearth of technical staff including engineers and pilots as many are lured by the 'big money' jobs in oil rich countries.

Despite all troubles, the airline is making profits. To raise its passenger capacity, the airline has contracted to purchase two giant Airbus and six Boeing 737 besides one Airbus and one Boeing already ordered.

The airline is also conscious about safety. As one executive puts it "we delay a flight because we are not sure an aircraft is airworthy or because it needs rectification is indicative of the fact that we place a premium on safety in the airline."

Another official commented on maintenance: "We don't compromise on safety because many lives and our reputation as professionals who know their jobs are at stake."

Despite these claims air safety record of Indian Airlines is highly suspect.

INDIAN AIRLINES' DISASTERS

Date	Aircraft	Location	Cause	No. Killed
6-3-63	Dakota	Pathankot	Structural failure of rudder system	29
9-11-63	Viscount	Near Agra	Sudden descent. Reason not known	18
2-7-66	Fokker Friendship	Banihal Pass	Crashed into high ground in flight	37
2-15-66	Caravelle	Palam	Undershot runway	2
4-21-69	Fokker Friendship	Near Khulna	Crashed in flight	44
8-29-70	Fokker Friendship	Near Slichar	Collided with mountain on take-off	39
12-9-71	Avro 748	Madurai	En route – reason not known	20
8-11-72	Fokker Friendship	Palam	Undershot ILS approach	18
3-15-73	Avro 748	Near Secunderabad	On training flight	4 (one on ground)
5-31-73	Boeing 737	Delhi	Pilot error	49
10-12-76	Caravelle	Bombay	Broken fuel lines	95
1-11-76	Helicopter	Bombay	Caught fire while landing	5
12-17-78	Boeing 737	Hyderabad	Suspected flap failure, cause unconfirmed	3 (one in plane two on ground)
4-26-79	Boeing 737	Madras	Crashlanded following suspected explosion	0
8-4-79	Avro 748	Pune	Hit a hill	45

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MALAYSIA / SINGAPORE

INDIA SENDING DIPLOMATS TO SINGAPORE TO LEARN MANDARIN

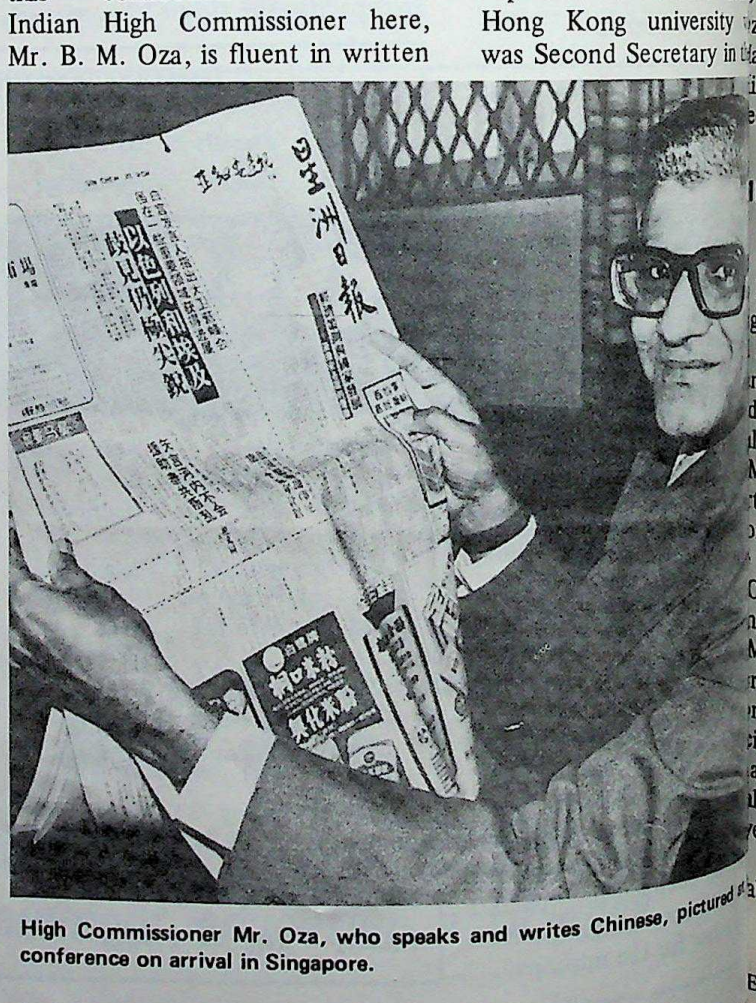
With Singapore now going all out to popularise Mandarin in and outside schools, India has found this island Republic an ideal place for her Foreign Service recruits to learn and acquire proficiency in that language. The Government of India is reported to have started sending these cadets, who have to study Mandarin, to Singapore for language training. The decision to send them is belived to have been recommended by the Indian High Commission in Singapore. Accordingly, Mr. Ashok Kumar Kantha, 26, of the Indian Foreign Service, is now attending classes at the Chinese Language and Research Centre in the Nanyang University in Singapore. He will study for two years acquiring proficiency in the language to give him a vocabulary of about 600 Chinese characters.

BETTER THAN HONG KONG?

The Indian Government is likely to send more diplomats, who are to study Mandarin, for language training in Singapore. At present, India is also sending its foreign service staff to pick up Mandarin in Hong Kong but the lingual environment there is more Cantonese. It is felt that the Singapore environment is more conducive to the study of Mandarin as it is more widely spoken here. It is also one of the four official languages used by Radio and Television Singapore. A number of diplomats attached to various embassies in Singapore have also taken up the study of Mandarin at various centres in the Republic.

INDIAN H. C. FLUENT IN MANDARIN

It is relevant to point out in this connection that the Indian High Commissioner here, Mr. B. M. Oza, is fluent in written and spoken Mandarin. He arrived in Singapore in ... last year succeeding Mr. V... hacharry, who is also ... in Chinese. On his arri... year old envoy spoke in ... and English, despite say... been out of touch with ... uage for about 10 years ... a request, he wrote ... in Chinese effortlessly ... bold strokes. It is worth ... what he said at that ... explained he studied Ch... Hong Kong university ... was Second Secretary in ...



High Commissioner Mr. Oza, who speaks and writes Chinese, pictured ... conference on arrival in Singapore.

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High Commission there in 1962 and in two years, he was able to read and write well enough to pass the advanced level examinations conducted in the university. He further improved on it when he was posted to Peking for another two years.

"LEARNING CHINESE REALLY HARD WORK"

However, his postings to Hong Kong and Peking, were by no means coincidental. He had been doing some research work on demography before he joined the Foreign Service, and some aspects of the Indian population problems are somewhat similiar to the Chinese situations. That was how I became interested in the Chinese language and specially requested to be posted there so that I could learn it," he said. Learning Chinese is really hard work, with lots of memorising to do, characters to learn and passages to read and write, observed Mr. Ariza, who had once talked in Mandarin with Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew during Mr. Lee's visit to India in 1966.

MR. CHHATWAL PRESENTS BOOKS TO UMNO

Meanwhile, the outgoing Indian High Commissioner in Malaysia, Mr. J. S. Chhatwal has presented a number of Indian books on politics and other subjects to the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) which is the principal partner of the ruling National Front. The other major partners are the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA) and the Malaysian Indian Congress (MIC).

Making the presentation to the Secretary-General of the National Front and Vice-President of UMNO Encik Ghaffar Baba (Encik is the Malay equivalent of "Mr.") in Kuala Lumpur on behalf of the Government of India, Mr. Chhatwal said UMNO had produced many capable Malaysian leaders. The party had also been in the forefront of the Freedom Movement here, he said and cited former Prime Ministers Tunku Abdul Rahman and the late Tun Abdul Razak, besides the late Tun Dr. Ismail and Encik Ghaffar Baba himself as some of the better-known leaders. "They are not only Malaysian leaders, but also the leading lights of South-East Asia," he said.

High Commissioner Mr. Chhatwal (left) handing over the books to Encik Ghafar Baba.

6,000 MALAYSIAN STUDENTS IN INDIA

Mr. Chhatwal (whose next posting is to Mexico) went on to say there is close co-operation between Malaysia and India in the economic field. Malaysia, in fact, has the largest number of Indian joint ventures. Besides, about 6,000 Malaysians are at present studying in Indian institutions of higher learning and they form the largest number of foreign students there. He said India has opened all her educational institutions for Malaysian students.

Receiving the books on behalf of UMNO, Encik Ghaffar Baba said the party welcomed the kind gestures by the Indian Government. He said UMNO as a political party needed to have a fully-equipped library, and he hoped the Indian Government would continue to provide assistance to UMNO.

VETS FROM INDIA DEMAND FAIR DEAL

Veterinary graduates from Indian Universities have urged the Malaysian Government to give them "a fair deal" since they handle the bulk of work in the veterinary service in this country. "Even in the current campaign against foot and mouth disease and swine fever, Indian university graduates are doing most of the work," the Chairman of the Malaysian Association of Indian University Graduates Northern Region, Mr. N. Govindan Kutty said, speaking at the branch's annual general meeting in Penang recently. Though the Government appreciated their work, it still discriminated against such graduates by placing them in the Division Two category, he said.

"We have presented our case to the Government several times but there still has been no positive step taken to place Indian graduates on par with others from Western countries," he said. In the present outbreak of foot and mouth disease, veterinarians from other States had to be sent to the affected areas to tackle the problem as there was a general shortage of staff in the service. According to him there are about 40 vacancies for veterinarians, and yet about 60 veterinary graduates from Indian and Pakistani universities still remain unemployed.

RECOGNITION OF INDIAN DEGREES LONG OVERDUE

Mr. Kutty said the question of full recognition of Indian, Pakistani and Bangladesh veterinary degrees was a long standing problem and he hoped it would be resolved soon to the satisfaction of all concerned. He also urged the Malaysian Medical Council to carry out an evaluation of Indian medical degrees so that they could be recognised without any further delay.

— G. S. Muthukrishnan

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CANADA

'GOLDEN AGE OF INDIA EXHIBIT' ATTRACTS LARGE CROWDS TO GALLERY

The fourth floor of the National Art Gallery of Canada in Ottawa is attracting a large number of admirers these days. Since the arrival of a collection of sculptures reflecting the Golden Age of India in all its artistic splendor three weeks ago, art lovers in the city are being treated to a special display of one of the finest collections of South Asian art in the world.

The gallery is only showing a preview with the display of 33 Indian stone sculptures and three Nepalese ones in wood under the title, "Brahma and Buddha". The pieces include depictions of Parvati-Shiva, Kubera, and other religious and mythological figures and symbols as visualized by talented artisans of the Gupta period (230 A. D. 495 A. D.) and before.

The tolerance shown by Hindus towards Buddhism, Jainism, and other offshoots of Hinduism is demonstrated in their art of the times. Hindu gods and godesses and Buddhist sculpture existed side by side, revered by all.

The Ottawa Art Gallery is planning to exhibit miniatures and bronzes at the time of its 100th birthday party next year. It is expected to prove as popular as the "Sensuous Immortals," a collection of Indian sculpture that was on display earlier this year.

A Toronto steel magnate, Max Tanenbaum, has gifted approximately 400 sculptures to the National Art Gallery enabling it to house a fine collection of South Asian art.

"Hinduism with its thou... gods, perplexing myths a... plicated iconography, ma... baffling indeed to the un... but in order to enjoy the ... beauty of Indian sculpture, ... no real need to study its ur... abstract philosophy. Indi... ture appeals directly and ... tely to the senses. It is a... the joy of life and to ... beauty," says Dr. ... Merklinger, a specialist i... art, who is working prese... book on Indo-Islamic arc... in the Deccan.

"Brahma and Buddha" ... glimpse into the Gupta ... the fourth and fifth centu... It will remain on display i... until September.

– Ro...

UNITED STATES

THE GHAZALING DUO

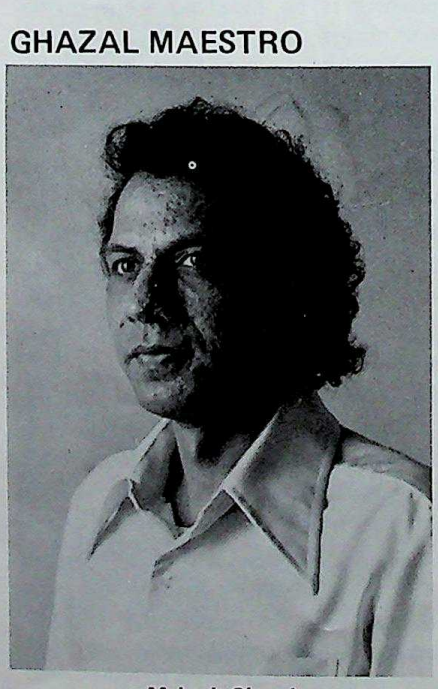
Renowned Ghazal maestro **Mahesh Chander** is in New York doing the concert rounds.

Mahesh, a young Bombayite with a deep and resonant voice, has won quite a bit of acclaim in his United States debut. His first major performance here was presented under the banner *Shab-E-Ghazal*, which drew a select and devoted musical audience.

But his whopper of a success was the informal concert at the Vedic Heritage institute in Queens. The show was attended by a huge audience, including a large team from the media.

Spurring him through the lead singing at several of the programs was a young lady from Delhi, **Veena Ahuja**, who also has a voice that takes her places. Veena has won admirers ever since she shot into prominence in Delhi's many music competitions.

GHAZAL MAESTRO



Mahesh Chander

Mahesh cut a Marathi d... was composed by **Lata M...** and which was called *Sad...* (Simple Man). "The celebr... **dit Laxman Prasad** was m... says a soft-spoken ... deep-voice Mahesh when a... inspired him. And then ... comes from a family of m... He is the son of **Master ...** a name familiar throug... ghazal world.

But Indian music isn't ... thing Mahesh is limited to. ... the western disco, ro... you-name-anything-else ... "There's one particular ... **Andy Williams** that I l... hummed it) That's the on... which I'd like to make ... version." So we have anot... West composition in the o...

"There's one thing I'd l... rather emphatically. I thin... singers are not really get...

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due. For instance, ghazals are more often than not praised for the verses they recite rather than their voices. It is the voice of a ghazal artist that should win approval."

On the itinerary is a trip to Canada around the 15th of August. Indians there can look forward to a musical treat A La Mahesh Chander!

ENTERTAINING FARE AT KISHORE SHOW

Over 5,000 Indians packed Madison Square Garden's Felt Forum to witness the Kishore Kumar Show despite an incessant downpour.

Kishore Kumar, India's leading playback singer, is among the very few top entertainers who believe in giving live shows within their own country. Kumar has been following this practice for many years now, and occasionally takes his show abroad. This was his fifth performance in the U.S.

Another feature that sets Kumar apart from his peers is the zesty manner in which he belts out his favorite songs – with the right combination of body swinging and mime.

Although he informed the audience at the beginning of the show that he had a sore throat and was feeling a bit under the weather, Kumar endeavoured to go through the performance with his usual enthusiasm – and succeeded. Other members of his entourage, including singer Anuradha, dancer Jayshree T. and veteran film actor David, provided engaging support entertainment.

Another artist, Bhansali, almost stole the show with his uncanny mimicry of famous film personalities and other simulated sounds from a remarkable throat.

All in all, it was an edifying three-hour program. Unlike many live shows which either get canceled at the last minute or start after inordinate delays, the Kishore Kumar Show started and finished on time. Its New York sponsors were Asha Entertainments, who also presented it last year.

CALIFORNIA AIA ELECTS OFFICERS

The Association of Indians in America's Southern California Chapter elected the following officers at their second annual general body meeting held July 29: R. Narayanaswami, president; Chaitanya Dave, executive vice-president and secretary; Shan Thevar, Nari Kripalani and Arvind Shah, vice-president; and Akshai Runchal, treasurer.

KENYA

INDIAN MILLIONAIRE RETURNS TO UGANDA

The multi-millionaire Mehta family, expelled from Uganda by the deposed President Idi Amin in 1972, will return to Kampala to resume sugar industry operations, according to a news report.

Mehta, who was in Uganda making arrangements, affirmed his commitment to the promotion of foreign investment in the country, to restore its economy.

The Mehtas may be followed by other Asians returning to the country.

NEW CENTRE INAUGURATED

Dadi Janki, administrator for the branches of the Brahma Kumaris Spiritual University, outside India, flew from the base in London to Nairobi recently. Accompanying her was Sr. Jayanti from the London Raja Yoga Centre. They participated in the inauguration ceremonies of the new Raja Yoga centre in Nairobi.

The Assistant Minister for Housing and Social Services, Dr. Julia Ojiambo, inaugurated the centre, lavishly praising the work of Raja Yogis. She said that the teachings of the institute and the motto of 'Om Shanti' – Peace, helps to mould society and is what the world so desperately needs today.

FULL OF PRAISE

Pictured at the occasion are seen from left: B. K. Protima, Dadi Janki, Dr. Julia Ojiambo, Professor Donders and B. K. Jayanti.

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EXCEPTIONAL TALENT

Durban pianist Surendran Reddy, 17, won the "Commonwealth" first prize of R750 at the Royal Overseas League's annual music festival in London recently.

He was the youngest competitor out of 557 entrants. After a dazzling performance of some Scarlatti and Messiaen's formidably difficult "Regard de l'Esprit de Joie" (taken from "Vingt Regards sour l'Enfent Jesus") before a packed audience at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, the shy, slight lad was given his prize by Princess Alexandra.

Although he still has two more years' study ahead of him at the Royal College of Music, he has proven quite clearly that he had an exceptional talent and will emerge as an important soloist.

Although from Durban, Surendran Reddy first studied music in Bulawayo under Anthony Walker. He played in Durban last August and will be going home to see his parents again and possibly to give some recitals, for a six-week visit.

Surendran Reddy receives his first prize from Princess Alexandra.

SOUTH AFRICAN HONOVRED

Professor B.G. Ranchod, Dean of the faculty of Law at the University of Durban-Westville, has been invited to assist in the planning of the Ninth Conference on the Law of the World, which will be held in Madrid, Spain, in September 1979. It is the first time that a South African has been invited to participate in the planning of this international congress, which takes place every two years and is attended by about 5,000 judges, lawyers, law professors and law students from every part of the world.

A very special event already arranged for the Ninth Conference will be a visit to the Vatican for a private audience with His Holiness the Pope.

Professor Ranchod delivered a paper at the Eighth Conference on the Law of the World, which was held at Manila in the Philippines in 1977. He was the only South African delegate.

MYSTERY DEATH

The body of Miss Ramilla Jeena, 32, who was described as the "right-hand" woman of the spiritual head of the Divine Life Society, was found by police in a disused sand pit on the banks of the Umgeni River. – seven d she went missing.

Miss Jeena, who had degree from the Univ Durban-Westville, disapp the morning of June 19 women's dormitory at th Life Society's Ashram Germany Road, Reservoir

She moved into th quarters of the Society years ago after renoun materialism and dedicatin to religious work.

Miss Jeena, who came wealthy Isipingo famil visited her relatives about month.

Society were tight-lipp Miss Jeena's disappearance subsequent discovery of he

DASHED OUT

However, members Society said that Miss J recently asked the spiritu Swami Sahajananda, to b to meditate on the banks Umgeni River.

He had apparently re instead had promised to

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the Ashram's headquarters in the imalaya Mountains at Rishikesh, ndia.

Ramilla Jeena

On June 19 Miss Jeena is under- ood to have woken another oman who is also living in the rmitory at about 3 a.m. to visit e bathroom.

"After coming out of the bath- om she suddenly dashed out of e building and disappeared into shes behind the Ashram.

"Several people who live in dormitories immediately ganised a search party but they led to find her," said a member.

Members said Miss Jeena was a ply religious person.

"Her whole life was dedicated to gion. She became the right hand ur Swamiji. She assisted him in society's printing press and was ry successful collector of funds.

"During her fund raising drives he Cape and the Transvaal she to collect up to R60,000."

Swami Sahajananda said he did allow newspapers to be brought to the Ashram premises and he not talk to the Press.

ENSORS LIFT BAN ON "LOVE IN CANADA"

he controversial Indian film, ve in Canada," which was banned by the censors because it depicted a love affair between a white and an Indian, has now been passed unconditionally for screening by the Publications Appeal Board.

The film was banned because it was felt that the Indian community in South Africa was opposed to the mixing of races and the consequent effect on its culture.

"Although the action takes place in Canada, the influence of the theme on young people in this country where such miscegenation is illegal, becomes most important," said Mrs. M. van der Westhuizen, deputy director of publications in Cape Town.

FASHION PARADE

Padmini is all excited in a two piece suit consisting of a soft jacket with quilted shoulders and soft, clinging skirt.

Romilla and Angel look on calmly in tunic tops teamed with tapered trousers falling and wrinkling gently at the ankle.

GENEROUS DONATION

The M. L. Sultan College Capital Development fund received another boost recently when Mr. Whittle, the Vice-Chairman of a well-known building society in Durban presented a cheque for R1,000 to the development fund bringing his company's total contribution to R7,000. Our photograph shows Mr. Whittle handing the cheque to Dr. Sultan. Others in the photograph from the left are Mr. J. B. Patel, Dr. Alec Solomon and Mr. S. J. Ley, Natal Regional Manager of the Society.

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NEW ZEALAND

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of all Indian Associations in N.Z. was held at the Town Hall, Pukekohe (just 32 miles away from Auckland) which is New Zealand's largest city. The meeting was opened by the President of the Pukekohe Indian Association, with speeches by the Mayor of Pukekohe Mr. Hirst and also by the Minister of Energy, Government of N.Z. Mr. W. Birch.

Delegates from all major towns and cities attended, the bulk of them being Gujeratis, as they form the major portion of Indians living in various parts of New Zealand. The new President of the N.Z. Indian Association is Mr. Thakor Parbhu of Auckland, who has a law practice and is a prominent figure amongst Indians living here. The meeting commenced at 09.00 hours N.Z. time and finished around 23.30 hours, and in between sessions, Indian snacks and food was served by the Pukekohe Indian Association members.

— Osbourne St. Martin

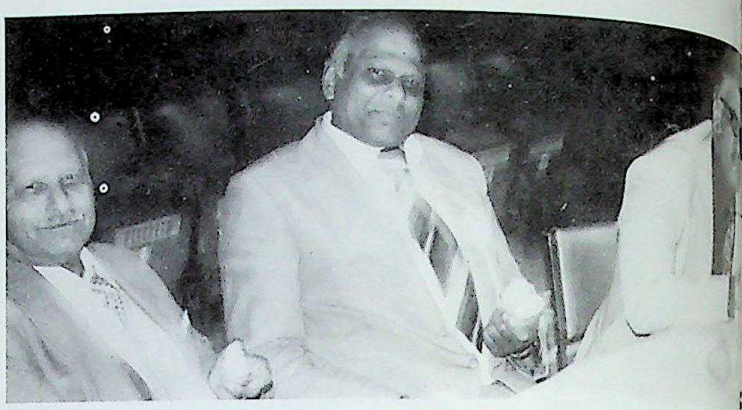
SUBSTITUTE FOR RUM

Jawans at high altitudes will get coffee, tea, milk and dry fruits as a substitute for rum after total prohibition is introudced all over the country.

The minister of state for defence, Mr. Sher Singh, contended in the Lok Sabha that these would provide that jawans with the necessary heat at that height.

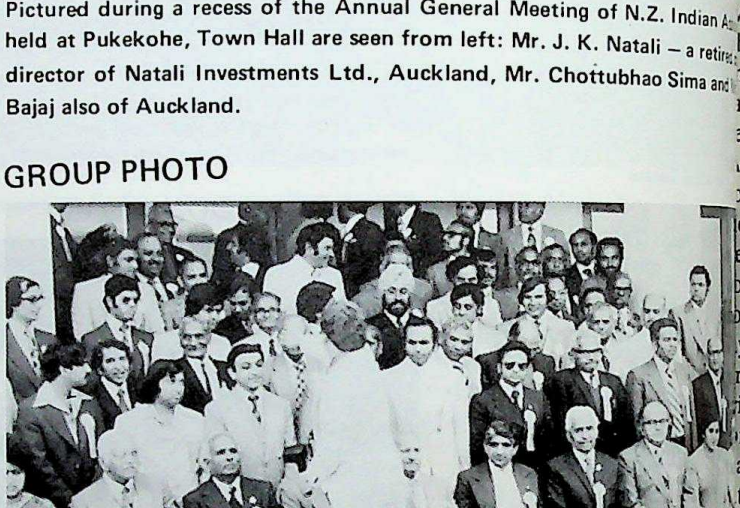
When some members ridiculed the idea and wondered whether this would not affect the fighting capabilities of jawans, Mr. Sher Singh said there were several people in the army who did not take rum, why not others, he asked. Apart from milk and dry fruits, other varieties of local fruits would also be provided to them for withstanding the cold climate, he said.

TAKING A BREAK



Pictured during a recess of the Annual General Meeting of N.Z. Indian A... held at Pukekohe, Town Hall are seen from left: Mr. J. K. Natali – a retire... director of Natali Investments Ltd., Auckland, Mr. Chottubhao Sima and ... Bajaj also of Auckland.

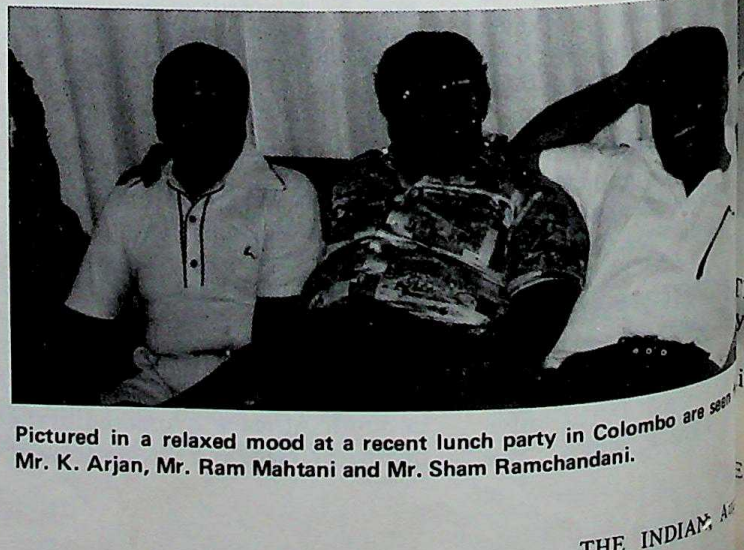
GROUP PHOTO



Photographed are a group of delegates from various parts of New Zea... attended the Annual General Meeting of N.Z. Indian Associations held at Pu...

SRI LANKA

AT EASE



Pictured in a relaxed mood at a recent lunch party in Colombo are seen Mr. K. Arjan, Mr. Ram Mahtani and Mr. Sham Ramchandani.

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Gleanings from Indian press

SAVI PRAKASH: 'EXCITING ARTIST'

A prolific painter of New Delhi, Savi Prakash, who has displayed her works in solo exhibitions and group shows in India and abroad, including U.K., U.S.A., Belgium, Switzerland and West Germany, has received awards from the Lalit Kala Academy and Sahitya Kala Parishad, for her works. Some of her exhibitions also included her sculptures, pen and ink sketches and water colours. Her works are in the collection of the Lalit Kala Academy, New Delhi, the Museums of Art in Bonn and Brussels, and private collection in India and abroad. As a person, Mrs. Savi Prakash: is an optimist, beaming with humour, and a devout follower of Satya Sai Baba.

Savi Prakash

The *Berber Tagblatt*, a Swiss daily, commenting on her exhibition in Berne, remarked that "the quality of Savi Prakash's artistic

AIR CHIEF IN LADAKH

Air Chief Marshal I.H. Latif, Chief of the Air Staff, visited the Indian Air Force bases in the remote regions of Ladakh recently. He is seen appreciating a mural in the ancient Spituk Gompa (monastery), 4 miles from Leh.
Leh has other Gompas, very popular with the tourists. Sankar Gompa is in town. Hemis Gompa, 22 miles from Leh, is the venue of the famous annual dance, which attracts foreign visitors the most. Ladakh does not have the unique scenic charms of the Kashmir Valley but its naked peaks flirting with the clear blue sky, the gleaming glaciers and the still waters of the cold, high altitude lakes, presenting austere aspects of Nature, have a charm all their own.

Photo: — Press Information Bureau, (Defence Wing), New Delhi

INDIA'S PEASANT PRIME MINISTER

The President, Mr. N. Sanjiva Reddy, administering the oath of the Office of the Prime Minister to Mr. Charan Singh at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on July 28, 1979.

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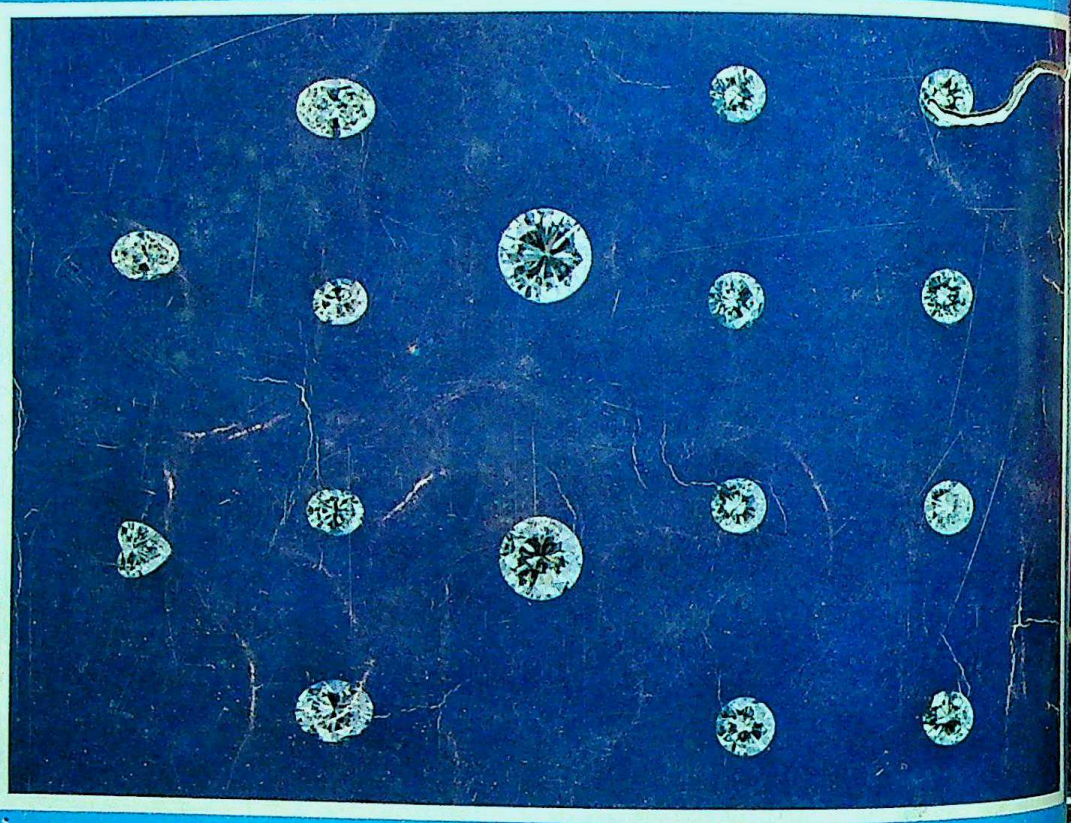

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the indian

The voice of 10 million overseas indians

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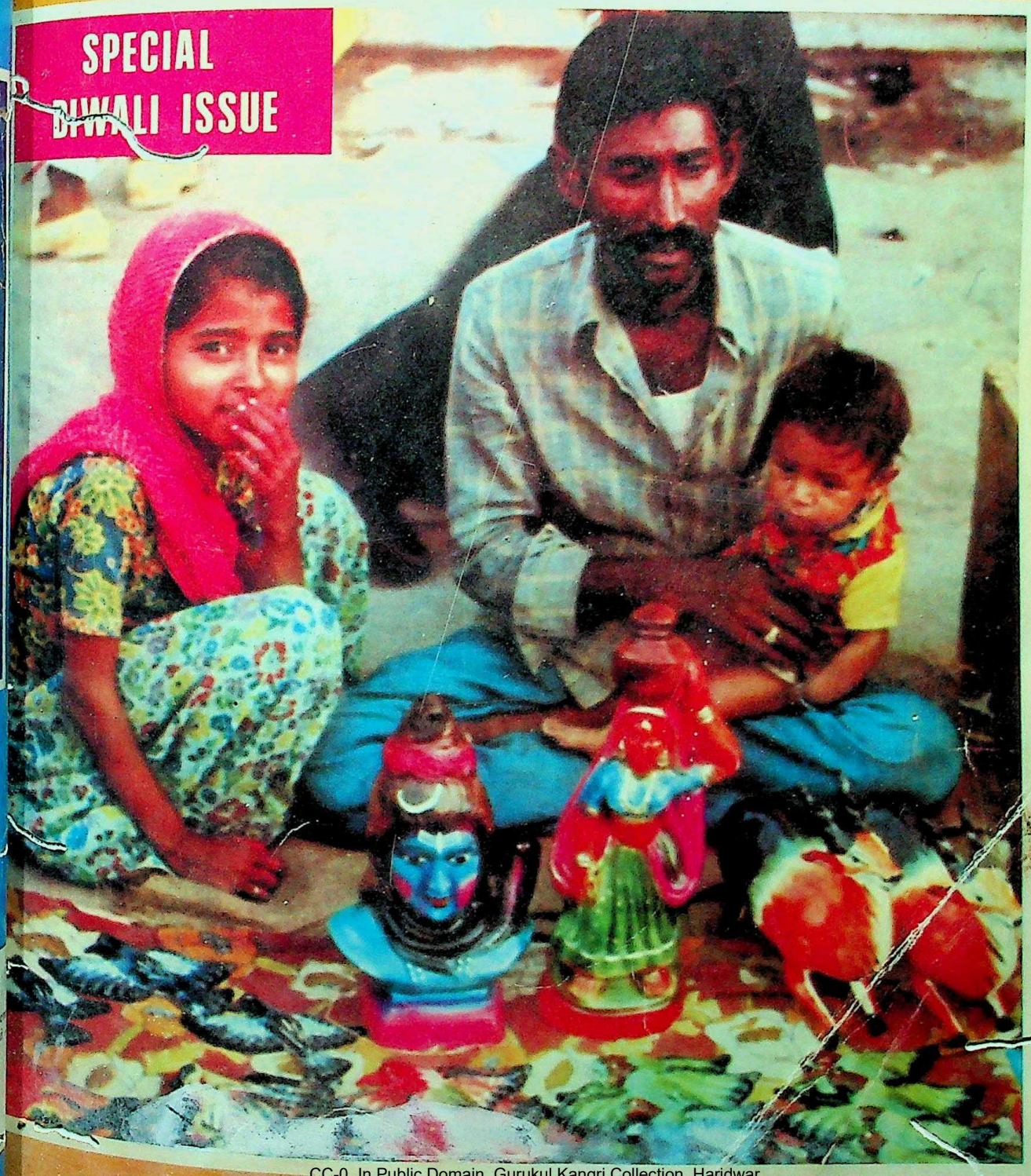
SPECIAL DIWALI ISSUE



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THE VOICE OF 10 MILLION OVERSEAS INDIANS

the indian

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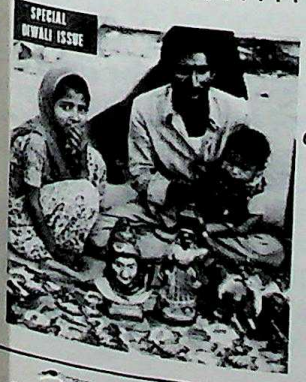

Cover:
A family of roadside vendors in Chandni Chowk sell gaily painted clay figures of birds, animals and gods.

Samaiki

BOMBAY AIRPORT

Recently there was a fire at Bombay airport and the entire air traffic completly stopped for many days. It is still not normal as the extensive damaged caused by the fire will take several weeks for rectification. I am sure the Indian authorities are doing all they can to bring the airport to normal functioning.

My point is different. Bombay is the biggest airport of India handling more than 60 per cent of the air traffic that passes through India. Being located mid-way between the East and West, this airport is also vital to all international traffic. There is a crying need for Bombay to have another airport in addition to the present one. The fire last month is the best proof in support of my point. Also Delhi, Calcutta and Madras airports should be upgraded and a part of the traffic passing through Bombay should be diverted there. Why are these airports under utilized and Bombay overworked?

I hope the Indian authorities will give urgent attention to these points and do something on a priority basis.

with all good wishes

for

a Happy Diwali

and

a Prosperous New Year

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Rear View

TIBET

Since its annexation by China, Tibet has remained vailed from the rest of the world. Peking claims a great modernization of Tibet after its "inteqeration" with motherland. Dalai Lama alleges destruction of his country and denial of basic human rights to his people. China invited a group of Indian newspapermen to visit Lhasa. This was the first foreign group to visit Tibet. Their reportings differ in content and details but contain several common points.

Tibet's 1.2 million square kilometres area forms one eight to the total area of China but holds only 1.7 million people. It offers vast scope for absorbing spill over from the mainland. Reportedly there is one Hun for about every 15 Tibetans in Tibet. Inter marriages between Huns and Tibetians are encouraged. Tibetians are taking to Mao suits and Huns in Lhasa often don Baku dress of Tibetians.

Tibet is ruled by China in every sense of the word. 1,20,000 Huns occupy all top jobs in government, factories, educational institutions and communes. Tibetians hold number two jobs where possible. Army personnel are seen everywhere in Lhasa.

Lhasa has been almost entirely rebuilt. Many buildings are 4 to 5 storeys high. The City is clean, fresh and green. Trees line long avenues. Over 50 percent children attend schools. Medical care is adequate and people are healthy. There are no signs of affluence but there are no beggars or unemployed either. Tibet has been transformed.

Transformation has penetrated deep into the Tibetian fabric. Religion, once the focal point of life in Tibet has given way to China's new four "modernization" and Buddhism barely survives Dalai Lama's former nobility has been absorbed into new administrative heirarchy and are highly paid. Monasteries where thousands of Lamas resided and assisted Dalai to rule, now lie derelect. There are only about 300 Lamas left. They just keep the places cle are paid for their wor government spends large f preserve monasteries and Palace. Monasteries no play their former role, c are not centres of political They are reduced to mu which rich treasures of stored.

On the whole, Tibet better off and materia a better life. Culturally, being absorbed in the ma of the Chinese life. Po they are ruled by emissari Peking. If reports are right ians, particularly the new ion could not care less fo hism, lamas and the old They were born and bro under the new rule, indoc thoroughly and prepared for four modernizations.

DEMOCRACY IS ON THE RAILS STILL

The recent dramatic political developments in Delhi were like a typical Bombay-made Hindi film, said Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, the former Foreign Minister of India, after Mr. Charan Singh was pushed up to a slippery summit by a devious route. Mr. Vajpayee told a Bombay audience that this drama could well be christened "*Kissa Kursi Ka* – Part 11". The Delhi happenings (the utmost credit goes to the arch toppler, Narain, who had started th with Mrs. Gandhi in th elections), had all the ingre a typical Hindi film-tragic suspense, violence, stabb the back, low morality an of trust and principles, he a

Politics arrived at a na pass in India, but it was to the failure of the

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democratic system. The system suffered because of the aberrations of a few turncoat politicians who professed faith in democracy when it suited them, but unfortunately did not live up to its ethics. The political conditions were ripe for a revolution – the kind that has bred in many an Afro – Asian country – but in India these produced only constitutional controversies and arguments ventilated freely via the press and other media. Constitutional pundits were divided about the propriety of President Sanjiva Reddy abiding by the advice of the Council of Ministers, headed by Mr. Charan Singh, and allowing it to continue in office till the mid-term poll, a costly deal for a poor country, just now reeling under droughts and rising, steep prices of essential commodities. The President was handicapped by the fact that the Constitution did not provide for such contingencies. Nor could he behave like the British monarch in a polity that has evolved into a complete antithesis of U.K.'s stable and civilised two-party system. In U.K. there was only one defection during the last six years. In India, on the other hand, it would be irksome to keep track of defections even with the aid of a computer!

With agitations galore, a largely unreliable police force, communal violence on the increase, the army (plus the navy and air force) could be the last resort to which the steady, inconsistent and incapable politicians might have turned. So far, the stars be blessed, the Army has not evinced any political ambitions, though some pessimists saw portents indicating the near death of democracy. They have proved false prophets like the foreign commentators who had prepared the obituaries – and the Indian democracy is firmly on the rails.

Churchill once described democracy as "the worst form of government except all the others we have tried before." Indians acquired new experiences in the last two or three years which came to U.K. and western democracies after centuries. Bolstered by the youth of its democracy, India is building up new conventions. Assessed by its own standards, democracy is doing better in India. Opinion polls have confirmed the finding that faith in Indian democracy has not been eroded during the last two years. More people, including those in the rural areas, who constitute the majority of the electorate, are conscious of their social, economic and political rights than they were before. There is much more awareness of the power of the ballot-box for securing their rights. Sure enough, they throw up surprises at the election to be held at the end of this year. The people will come into their own at the hustings and, for aught one can tell, they might even produce a startlingly new Parliament.

–Somnath Dhar

LORD MOUNTBATTEN

The news of the death of Lord Mountbatten in tragic circumstances, at the hands of terrorists, shocked the Indian people. In an unprecedented gesture, the Government of India declared a 7-day mourning, and Central Government offices and educational institutions were closed for one day – no such holiday was declared in U.K. Few Britons had endeared themselves to the Indians (older politicians and persons naturally knew more about him) than the last dashing Viceroy, who played a momentous role in Indian affairs before and after Independence.

Signing the Condolence Book in the British High Commission in New Delhi, and seeing the host of entries therein, the present writer was reminded of the memorable occasions when he had seen Lord and Lady Mountbatten with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru – the rapport they had was later concretised, in political terms, in the unique formula that was devised for India to stay in the British Commonwealth without losing her identity as an independent Republic. Later, during his diplomatic service tenure in London, the present writer had the privilege of meeting Lord Mountbatten at a number of occasions. Each time one could tell how close he was to Indians even after he had left the shores of India as the country's last Governor-General. All through his subsequent career in the Royal Navy and as the Head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Britain, he evinced a continuing concern for India's welfare.

The writer was among the small crowd – of Malaysians and diplomats – at Kuala Lumpur, who received Lady Edwina Mountbatten in 1960. She died suddenly in Borneo two days later. That was an irretrievable loss to Lord Mountbatten, but he bore it stoically and kept himself busy with multifarious activities. He had participated in an 'obituary programme' on himself, when the B.B.C. played a ruse on him, and it was telecast after his assassination. The tributes that Indian leaders including Mr. Jagjivan Ram, Mrs. Indira Gandhi and Prime Minister Charan Singh paid him, when interviewed on TV and radio, were equally touching. One of the leaders, Mr. Frank Anthony, had tears in his eyes while he was replying to the questions of Mr. Melville de Mellow on Delhi Television. With Lord Mountbatten's passing away, India lost a true friend.

– Somnath Dhar

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Promoting India's Image Abroad

By Rohini B. Ramanathan

Many of us who are sensitive to the situation often wonder about the Indian image abroad. We speculate to some extent, grope for solutions, and are eventually back to square one: Why is India not represented to our satisfaction (nowhere near) in the American media?

A passing remark such as "poverty-stricken India" made by Roger Mudd on CBS evening news while commenting on President Carter's visit abroad, silly and irrelevant quips on India and her people on situation comedies hurt our sensibilities. Some of us react by exploding, "How dare they speak this of us this way?" Louder protests come more often from those Americans who know India and Indians better,' and realize how ignorance of a culture can lead to shallow and insensitive comments about it. Recently an American teacher, after a year in India as a recipient of an NDEA grant for study abroad, admitted upon her return that she "had held a tabloid-journalism view of Asia." She wished that she had General Motors' power to recall cars with design defects, because then she could recall her students and tell them that she "lied" to them about India.

ETHNOCENTRIC AMERICA

Some observers speculate that the reason India is very often portrayed in unflattering light in the American media is because the American public has to be brainwashed into believing that there is no other place like America in this whole wide world and anything that falls short of this ideal is "backward." This sounds like a good theory, and many also apply to schools where teachers seek to convince students that the American way of life is the best.

There are others who think India has been too unimportant in the past or current affairs of the United States to be portrayed in a fresh perspective. So, it is all right to perpetuate the "Kiplingesque" images circulated by the British for reasons of their own and in turn picked up by Hollywood during the time the British ruled India. It is a vicious circle. The American reporters exposed to such a kaleidoscope bring back once again the same images that they have grasped through their tinted glasses. These skewed images being what they are, regardless of the reasons behind them, it is the duty of every Indian residing abroad to dispel the erroneous and exaggerated stereotypes held by their American friends.

To achieve any improvement in the portrayal of India in the American media a collective effort is required. One way to accomplish this would be to have a strong forum through which we could express our protestations to items about India we find objectionable in the American media and at least make all Indians aware of what is happening.

For instance, a reader revealed a misrepresentation of Indian history he came across in a textbook used in his son's classroom. There must be a many more examples floating around, and putting them all into one basket would help us sort out the errors and misrepresentations and then a remedy could be sought. Such a collective effort that seeks to tackle a common grievance might even bring us together as Indians and keep us from splintering away as Punjabis, Tamilians, Gujaratis, etc.

Many people might agree with this idea of dispelling the wrong notions foreigners have about India, but some might say, "So what?" There is a lot to be lost by such an attitude. Recently I attended a dinner honor of P. Lal, a poet and literary scholar from India, at the home of an American professor. As it happens ever so often, the guests slipped into a discussion on the image of India in the American media. Dr. Lal protested gently, "Why should they (the Americans) change it? They have more important matters to take care of, directly related to their own needs." At first I was shocked at this reaction, but quickly realized what he implied. If there is any change to be effected, the effort must come from the Indian side.

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INDIA IS INDIANS

The Indian image abroad, aside from being what is, is also put across by the country's people, its embassies and consulates, and everything Indian that exists abroad. Therefore, it is the responsibility of all to go about the task of coordinating their efforts toward effecting this change.

The Indian government agencies in this country should, besides extending the maharaja treatment to their American guests at cocktails and dinner parties, make it their serious business to be aware of how we really are perceived by Americans and set right any misconceptions that might exist. Instead of vaguely and blindly dismissing the American media as being biased, they should try to pinpoint *specifically* the damage done to our image and seek correction, whether it is the Indian map represented, or the date of India's independence misprinted, or any other damaging statement: Let us pool together all our observations and make ourselves aware of what's happening and then protest. Sometimes it could be a reaction to a whole book, or a film or documentary any one of us might have seen or heard about. These reactions certainly will not help rewrite the book or remake the film, but they would help the public be aware of Indians' feelings and make it feel that they count.

The Indian press correspondents in the U.S., and the employees of the Indian government posted abroad, have their constraints, but the rest of us who pay our taxes in dollars have indeed the freedom to voice our opinions. The same goes for our ministers and delegates who visit the U.S. on short trips and hence do not have the advantage that we have of keeping a systematic log on the items about India on American T.V. or in the newspapers. Since they are not fully aware of what is actually portrayed about India ex... the rumors they hear about ... and slanted coverage, they ... the American media in ve... nervous terms. Moreover, th... groups are less directly affe... the American perception o... since they seem so obvious ... power of the media and the ... cal implications of misperce... a culture than those of us ... here permanently dealing ... Americans in our everyday l...

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Female Indian Immigrants TORN BETWEEN TWO CULTURES

By Renuka Biswas

Dr. Renuka Biswas is an associate professor of social work at Lock Haven State College, Lock Haven, Pa. She is actively involved in commuuntiy affairs in Lock Haven. She is also active in the affairs of the Indian community.

During the last twenty years many Indian women have immigrated to the United States. Many of them are qualified in their fields professionally from graduate schools. Their experience in enculturation in this country, to some extent, is similar to that of a male in the same profession. Just like the other professionally qualified immigrants, they are highly motivated to take risks to fulfill their ambitions and aspirations. They are the cream of the crop of Indian women in education and orientation. Their experience in adapting to a new country as their home is in no way less novel than the experience of their male counterpart.

There are different categories of ndian women immigrants. Some ame to the U.S. to study or were n an exchange program and hanged to a permanent resident tatus and finally acquired citizenhip. Some came as visitors and hose to stay here as immigrants or itizens. Some came with their husands as immigrants. Finally, some ndian women came independently s immigrants.

They all had their anxieties in djusting to a host of new situations a new school atmosphere, new ving arrangements, new demands in their use of English, and the new demands of school assignments and other responsibilities. All this inflicts a culture shock, despite preparedness for all new things and despite the urge for fulfillment of ambitions.

Women students on scholarships or dependent on parental expenses have additional worries. In a male-dominated society, their motivation for good grades in school is high. Usually the expectation is too high considering the circumstances. Grades that fall below this expectation may result in disappointment for parents, sponsor, and above all, onself. Low grades mean letting down all those people who encouraged and helped one study abroad. Then there is the fear that the school administration and faculties may consider Indian students and their Indian education inferior, which may be far from the facts. A feeling of guilt and a crisis of industry vs. inferiority (as theorized by Erik Erikson) may cause sibstantial strains jeopardizing a student's study goals. In every movement, every action, an Indian woman feels she must represent her country and other Indian women. As an individual, she also must maintain her identity and integrity.

"The more you think about good grades and the best use of this opportunity, the more scared you get," said Madhuri Desai, a student at the University of Pennsylvania.

SENSE OF ALONENESS

Then how do they make out with other aspects of life? "It's quite difficult," said another student, Rabeya. "There is a host of strange things to adjust to, strange people, strange customs, strange food, strange weather. One must be forewarned and prepared for extreme cold and quite hot weather. Above all, strange and superficial relationships with people."

"I don't know anyone very closely. How long can you go on with 'Thank you' and 'Good night' or 'How are you? I am fine."

There is a definite communication gap because of a different accent, different usages of the English language and a different level of language skill, both spoken and written. "You are an island in the crowd," said Bina Chowdhuri, a Ph. D. student at Columbia University. This is true for all categories of Indian women immigrants.

Completely quiet and lonesome weekends put additional pressures on the emotional strength and po-

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tential of young Indian immigrants. "If you do not have a girlfriend or boyfriend, you have to get bored on weekends," said a friend studying in California. "There is nothing to do, nobody to talk to."

However, students or professional workers who live with their husbands, relatives, or friends may not undergo the same experience.

Indian women also fight shy of asserting themselves. Shyness and bashfulness are valuable assets for women in India. It is a sign of modesty and politeness. To their surprise, Indian women discover that shyness is equated with timidity and passivity in this country.

It is against this background that the Indian woman joins the labor force of the United States. She has a three-dimensional handicap: she is a woman, an alien, and an Asian. Indian women are confronted with the problem of discrimination, like any woman in the United States. But they also are foreigners from India and perhaps highly qualified and deserving candidates for well-paid higher positions. They have to compete not only with equally qualified people, but often with unqualified or partly-qualified people, too, for the same position.

NOT AGGRESSIVE

"You are not a minority group" (officially recognized) I was told, when I applied for a position in the City University. But though they were considered Caucasian till reclassification as Asians two years ago, Indians were not accepted as a part of the majority. Among aliens, people from European countries do get preferential treatment; Asian Indians cannot conceive of any such preference. As new immigrants, they are far less welcome in the professional fields. Ten to 15 years ago things may have been different, but during the last decade with a tight-ening job market, it has been a big struggle for Asian Indians to find suitable positions.

One who receives better advancement because of educational background and experience may draw the wrath of American co-workers of an unequal background. The Indian women professionals often settle for less, not knowing what they should expect and also in desperation to get the right job. They are slow in getting promotions and win less appreciation for work done. In a competitive society this is true for all men and women unless they are excessively aggressive, competitive, and have some resources for manipulation. Indians, especially women, are less oriented to the aggressive approach. We may, however, expect that their work is satisfactory since they are better qualified, well-motivated and highly ambitious.

Another phenomenon is noticeable. Some well qualified women professionals have lesser jobs, unrelated to their education and training. At a meeting of Indian women held at the Indian Consullate, New York in 1977, we came to know that a medical doctor was forced by her husband to take up a factory job because she could not practice before passing the required examinations and her husband was reluctant to allow her to wait that long.

The experience of Indian women immigrants may be outlined as (a) a new situation of competition, (b) a demand for an assertive, aggressive role, (c) inner drive for acceptance in the new environment and for adaptation and (d) a feeling of deprivation. They are second-class citizens to begin with, no matter what one says. Unless they are lucky to have had the appropriate orientation back home in India, or have a very considerate employer or supervisor who credits them for what they do, they develop a feeling of deprivation and frustration.

VALUE CONFLICTS

Most female Indian professionals are bound to face value conflicts related to the individual vs. social identity; human worth vs. individual worth; social interest vs. individual interest; Indian sexual mores vs. American sexual and many more. In this they are alone unless they husbands, relatives or friend usually have no family informal friendship, no clos action with others and relationships as newcom these affect the Indian more than the Indian man she is not trained to be out to reach out.

The Women's Movement centers around the family mainly. The number of co school friends with whom women interact socially limited. Therefore, in a country they naturally act unassertive. For instance, a man goes out on dates muc frequently than an Indian If she is asked for a date by dian or an American male she may say "Yes" and be consequences, such as a fee shame, and fear of being other Indians. The story deed may travel back hom pardizing family relations the chances of a marriage Indian. An Indian woman out on dates frequently is ed by other Indians as and undue advances may be toward her and she will be ected as a result. Her virginity, if single or faith to her husband, if marri be questioned. If she says to accepting dates, she different set of consequen uneventful void on week holidays, a feeling of a lack nections, emotional proble a loss of a chance for clo tionships. As the years go chances of her getting ma the traditional way become remote because pro grooms may doubt her cap adjust to an Indian husba has never been abroad.

Indian women like migrants from India, have prepared to answer repeated queations from American you still have a caste

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"Why do Indian women wear a mark on their forehead?" "Do you wear this costume all the time? (if she wears sari), "Do you see many elephants and snakes on the streets of India?" "Why don't you kill those cows roaming on the streets when people do not have food?" "Why are there so many beggars?" "Why do you have a population explosion?" "Do you know yoga, palm reading, or astrology?" "Do you eat a lot of curry and spice?"

In the last three years a few more stock questions have been added: "Do you like Mrs. Gandhi or Mr. Desai?" "Do all Indians drink urine every day?" (following a disclosure by Prime Minister Desai that urine has a therapeutic value), "Why does Mr. Desai want prohibition?"

In the midst of all these circumstances how much do the Indian professional women change and how? Firstly, many Indian women wear American dresses, mainly pant suits. They adapt to this dress perhaps because these are *American* dresses. They have the least hesitation in changing into these dresses because psychologically they accept the superiority of the majority white culture. I say this because Indians did not adapt the African dress or language when they were in Africa. Even now, Indian women in Africa do not wear African dress or wear Burmese dresses in that country. Some change to American clothes because otherwise they are discriminated against in the job market and in their day-to-day contacts.

AMERICANIZATION

Some Indian women change to American hairdos and cosmetics sometimes to bad taste). So women who are anxious to present themselves as Americans are under pressure to change food habits, child rearing practices, etc. and face great conflicts. Many women diet and become more concerned about their physical appearance.

All the above changes are related an external image and behavior.

Do they also experience emotional problems? They do. They are under pressure to contribute to their family income in the United States and to upgrade their standard of living or to achieve status. Unconsciously they accept American values of economic achievement, success and competion. While employed they are under tremendous strains, there is no help in household chores. If they are married, the husband rarely pitches in. They are brought up not to allow the husband or male members to participate in household activities. If they allow them to help then they feel guilty.

"Why do I feel guilty when on my return from work I see my husband alone reading the newspaper or taking care of our baby? said a registered Indian nurse.

Sometimes they are pressured to seek and accept a job for which they are not equipped. On the other hand, some Indian husbands oppose their wives working even though they have professional training. When and if they assert themselves, they are in conflict with their husbands.

Most of the married Indian women who are in this country with their husbands very seldom associated with American families and so seem unaware of conflicting values. Indian women who have developed close relationships with some Americans and have been residing in this country for a long time sometimes face an ex-patriot's guilt. They either denounce their country of birth or find fault in everything that is American. It's head to be objective.

Then there is the problem of the emotionally battered Indian woman no matter how educated or trained she is. While living in this country without any family members or relatives around, she is unable to confide in anyone and silently wears herself out – the victum of her husband's assaults. According to Indian custom, one is not to spread one's family's unhappiness to others. Family matters are to be kept within the family. Indian women immigrants face tremendous difficulties like any new immigrant, in coping with the strains, stresses and problems of a new life. It is true. But their problems are compounded with conflicting Indian and American values.

Top 20 Firm In India

The following is the list of the top 20 houses on March 31, 1977, with the assets of each given in brackets.

Birlas (Rs. 1070.2 crores), Tatas (Rs. 1069.28 crores), Mafatlal (Rs. 265.63 crores), Singhanias (Rs. 267.31 crores), Thapar (Rs. 215.92 crores), ICI (Rs. 209.97 crores), Scindia (Rs. 200.04 crores), Oil India (Rs. 199.95 crores), Bhiwandiwala (Rs. 189.44 crores), Bangur (Rs. 188.24 crores), Larsen and Toubro (Rs. 185.91 crores), Shri Ram (Rs. 179.77 crores), A.C.C. (Rs. 168.96 crores), Kirloskar (Rs. 160.96 crores), Hindustan Lever (Rs. 143.59 crores); Khatau (Rs. 138.82 crores), Sarabhai (Rs. 136.96 crores), Walchand (Rs. 132.81 crores, Macneil and Magor (Rs. 132.55 crores) and Mahindra (Rs. 125.49 crores).

Floating Diner For Bombay

The Maharahstra Tourism Development Corporation plans to build a floating restaurant in Bombay which, on completion, will be the first of its kind in India.

Cost of the project will be Rs. 5.3 million (US$646,000). The restaurant will be operated on board a two-deck air-conditioned vessel and will have a capacity for 150 diners.

Facilities will include lounges, dance floor, bar and corner stage.

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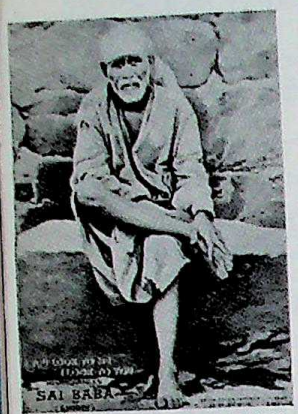

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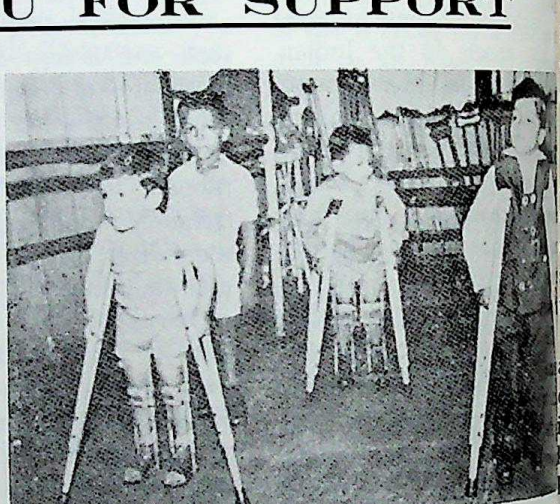

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Today's Qawwali Both Sensuous And Spiritual

By Shishir Ray-Chaudhuri

In March last year, three qawwali fans died and fourteen were injured at Biharsharif. The qawwali programme warmed up around midnight, when Jani Babu, a Bombay qawwali singer, chose to sing one of his songs recorded for *Do Khiladi*, which was being shown at a local cinema.

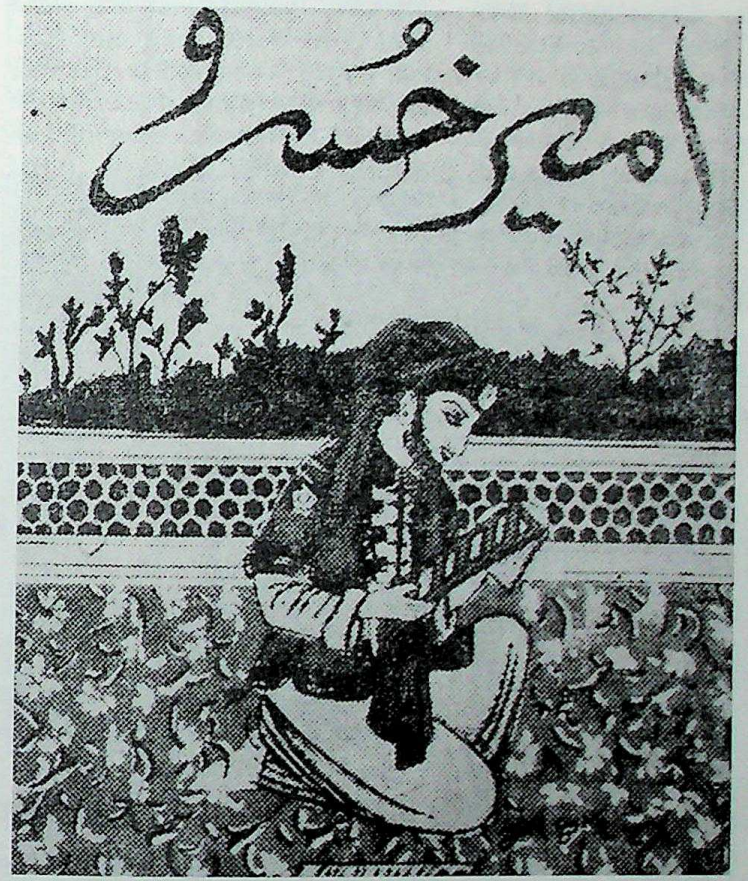
No sooner had he begun singing *"Raat abhi baki hai, baat abhi baki hai"*, the crowd outside became restive and tried to enter. Policemen wielding lathis came on the scene. The crowd retaliated by throwing bricks at them . . .

The qawwali, which evolved around the 13th century, is a product of a cultural synthesis. During the Turko-Afghan rule, the best-known literary luminary was Amir Khusrau, a refugee in the court of Balban. He lived to enjoy the patronage of at least five sultans and was known as the "Parrot of Hindu." Besides being gifted with literary talent, Amir Khusrau was a musician, too. With his rare insight and art, he introduced new and finer variations of the ragas and invented a new instrument – a typical lyre, which later evolved into the sitar.

Qawwali is primarily religious in content and appeal. Its style and technique have been mainly developed by the qawwals, who had an unflinching respect for Amir Khusrau as its creator. Amir was a sufi-poet and a very favourite disciple of Hazarat Nizamuddin Aulia, – who issued instructions to his followers that they should visit the tomb of Amir Khusrau first and then his. However, the sufi-saint Aulia, is respected by all the qawwals even today, mainly because Amir Khusrau was his devotee. Recently, Pakistan's popular qawwals, the Sabri brothers, gave their first recital in their two-month India tour, in commemoration of this great saint.

The qawwali recital, as a formal occasion, is ordinarily chosen at the time of the 'urs' (the birthday ceremony) of saints and prophets. For instance, the birthday ceremonies of Nizamuddin Aulia in Delhi and Khaja Mainuddin Chisti at Ajmer are celebrated every year when the best qawwals of India

CREATOR OF THE QAWWALI



The sufi-poet, Amir Khusrau (1253 A.D.-1325 A.D.) besides introducing finer variations of the ragas, invented a new instrument, a kind of lyre, which evolved into the sitar.

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assemble at these places.

However, the qawwali achieved its excellence during the reign of Mohammad Shah (1719-1748), whose encouragement and love for music earned him the sobriquet "Sadarangile." During his period, musicians composed a number of good khayals this, in turn, helped make qawwali more melodious. Though the traditional style was allowed to continue till the reign of the last Moghul emperor, Bahadur Shah Zafar, it had already started losing its devotional fervour since the period of Moghal rule. Women began participating in qawwali-singing, the subject-matter was secularised and the sufi-saints' strong influence curbed.

Today, the qawwali is a curious combination of the secular and the spiritual. Its lyrics and music are both virile and deep so much so that the listener's mind wanders from the "mazaz to haqiqat" (the physical to the transcendental). Most of these are very delightful compositions with a ready appeal and charm. When two groups of qawwali singers, facing each other from either side of the canopy, start singing with the accompaniment of the harmonium, dholak and sarangi, it not only creates a mystical world of music but also an air of musical competition among the singers.

Considering that the qawwali is the religious music of the Muslim, and that its lyrics were written in incomprehensible, chaste Urdu, many Hindu music lovers first shunned this form. But, for the last thirty years, the emergence of many Hindu qawwals has made the qawwali popular among the Hindus in North India and Bengal. Noted among these qawwals are the late Ustad Ram Naresh of Banaras, Pannalal Bose of Calcutta, Shankar-Shambhu and Raghunath of Bombay.

The Hindu qawwal, especially Pannala Bose, started composing in simple Hindi, lyrics on popular themes and quickly became popular. In one word, the Hindu qawwals have now brought qawwali from the 'mazar', 'mandir' (from the tombs of lim saints to the temple).

According to conser among qawwali-lovers, the has today degenerated and below the standards set famed qawwals of yesteryea as the late Pearoo Qawwal, Hasan and Abdul Rauf C Bombay. But Pannalal Bose this way, "Qawwali singing fallen from its musical exc It has been commercialised listeners, too, are of two religious and general. S compositions are of two according to the class of l Neither of the varieties if sung with proper artic virtuosity and above a respect. Though I am a H religion, I always sing a 'n devotional song at the begi each recital." An open attitude that also helps a g in easing communal tension.

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KICKED OUT FOR LOVE!

Anger Over Arranged Marriages

By Shamlal Puri in London

Two Asian teenage girls are wandering the streets of London after a row with their parents over arranged marriages. The two 17 year old girls (pictured) Indira Patel and Nita Mistry are homeless and drifting from house to house looking for a place to stay. They have been given temporoary shelter at Brent Indian Association's centre but have been told that there is not room for them. The girls were part of the growing problem among young Indians who have to cope with a daily clash of cultures. In the last week three Indian teenage boys had also come to the centre, saying they had been thrown out by their parents because of their life-style.

Said Indira, "I had a disagreement with my father and was told to leave home. I have been in this country most of my life and he wants me to marry into our caste. He takes a very traditional view on everything. He wanted me to get married when I was 16 years old, 16 years of age is too young to marry. We cannot make our minds up at 16 and be sure that we made the right choice." Indira claims that he was given an ultimatum — marry or get out. She got out, she said. She claims that her four brothers and four sisters refuse to speak to her despite her calling home to find out how they are.

"They say that I let them down. Although I left them I still love them, after all they are my family," she said. Indira says that she left home since last November but Nita Mistry has been on the road since she was 15.

I was half-way traditional, I tried to please my parents by being traditional at home and western with my friends, but they did not like that. They wanted me to wear saris but I could just not walk around the streets like that " said Nita. "My parents arranged for my marriage when I was only 14, but I was never happy about this idea. I went to Social workers and told them that I had problems at home, but sadly enough when they visited our home they only talked to my parents,".

The girls found a hostel for a little time but the problem is increasing and there is urgent need for social services to do something about it. It is becoming more and more frequent and over the past two years the social staff have been getting single girls coming to use who are either pregnant, homeless or both.

Nita Mistry (left) and Indian Patel, young Indian girls who opted to leave their homes rather than face what they say "the wrath of arranged marriages".

— Manju Dhiri

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Association of Indians in America Meet in New Delhi

By Anil Mathur

A meeting with Dr. D. G. Lanjewar is a must to have a better understanding of the role of Indians in the United States.

Dr. Lanjewar was in Delhi to attend the conference on new perspective in India-US trade sponsored by the Association of Indians in America (AIA), of which he is the President.

Dr. D. G. Lanjewar, President — Association of Indians in America.

The Association of Indians in America sponsored a five-day conference in New Delhi, at the Maurya Sheraton hotel, on The New Perspective of Indo-United States Economic Cooperation. The conference was a landmark in AIA activities and in the history of Indians abroad. The meet was inaugurated by Vice-President B. D. Jatti. US Ambassador Mr. Robert F. Goheen is also seen in the picture. AIA President Dr. Lanjewar addressing the opening session of the conference.

It was an excited, enthusiastic Dr. Lanjewar who enlightened me on the activities of AIA when I met him at the Maurya Sheraton Hotel for 'The Indian'.

AIA has since 1967 been devoting serious attention to the hopes, and aspirations of Indians in the U.S., Dr. Lanjewar said. This is clear from the fact that he himself devotes six hours a day to the affairs of the association he heads. And this is after he is a through with his work as a leading anesthetist the New York, which keeps him busy enough and he has made a name for himself in the profession.

Dr. Lanjewar, who hails from Nagpur, in Maharashtra, was in India on a visit after seven years. He had gone to the U.S. after studies in 1958.

Listing the various achievements of AIA, the doctor-president said with satisfaction that through the many committees that the association has been able to be heard and respected in the corridors of power the Asian Indian people. AIA has 25 chapters with a membership of 20,000.

A major AIA achievement has been that in the census for the U.S. Indians will be enumerated in the Asia India category — till

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were in the 'others' category. This is a clear sign of recognition of the positive role the Indians settled in the U.S. have been playing.

Several societies are existing for cultural and social purposes like organising festival celebrations. Therefore Dr. Lanjewar said that the AIA emphasis is on more serious issues effecting the lives of the Indian immigrants.

AIA produced a 40 minute audio visual presentation – on state grant on the lives of Indians in the U.S. and on India. This is being shown all over the country, leading to a better understanding between the country of birth or ancestors and the country of adoption. Infact, the New Delhi meet was also designed to improve Indo – U.S. relations and identify areas of cooperation. It was attended by leading politicians, academicians, social scientists, businessmen from both the countries. It had the backing of both the Governments and business community. Several papers on various topics were read and discussed at the five-day conference, where exchange of views led to a better appreciation of the issues.

Dr. Lanjewar in his presidential address said: "India is the land where many of us were born, and where we grew up. The U.S. is the land where our children are being born, and are growing up. Thus for the two lands we love, it is our hope that this conference will add a new plank to greater understanding between the people of India and the United States."

In May 1977, an India Study Conference was held in Philadelphia. AIA came forward with a contribution of 20,000 dollars for the Andhra Pradesh cyclone relief.

AIA has set up to more councils to deal with matters concerning the Indian community. One is the Council on Asian Indian Women and the other is the Council on Asian Indian Youth.

Other councils deal with tourism, trade, medical, engineering and Indian Studies Programme in the U.S.

ORNAMENTS IN INDIAN CULTURE

Ornaments are one of the 40 cultural traits representing unity amidst the diversity of Indian life, according to a study conducted by the Anthropological Survey of India (ASI).

The nearly nationwide study on "ornaments in India" reveals that the use and manufacture technique of many ornaments seem to have close similarity bearing a slight regional variation in design and materials.

The ASI surveyed, under the all-India cultural zone survey project, 311 of 322 districts in 16 states of the country and conducted studies in 430 villages to determine the cultural unity through the use of ornaments.

An analysis of the data on ornaments and the findings of the village survey show that ornaments in the country may be classified into pan-Indian and regional categories.

The study note that hairpins, earstuds, the "jhumka" type ear pendants, nose-studs, bead necklace, bangles, rings and toe rings belong to pan-Indian group and seem to have a countrywide distribution.

Though the tendency of ornamenting head, ear, nose-neck, arm, wrist and waist have regional characteristics, the distribution of such ornaments oversteps the linguistic and geographical boundaries forming definite continuous zones with occasional overlapping of such zones.

The "hansuli," a solid semicircular neck ornament, is found all over in the eastern and western states. To the north, it reaches Jammu and Kashmir but not Punjab and Himachal Pradesh and to the south it fonds its way up to Andhra Pradesh.

While "vonka", a V-shaped arm ornament, has been reported from Madras only, iron and conch shell bangles are restricted to West Bengal. The latter is also found in some parts of Bihar.

The study reveals that though the use of ornaments in the country dates back to the pre-historic era of Mohan-jodaro, nose ornament of any kinds is an addition of the 17th century A.D.

Nose ornaments are totally absent in the paintings and sculptures all over the country from Mohenjodaro right up to the end of the 16th century A.D. The earliest record of nose ornaments are in the Rajput paintings of the 17th century.

Along with nose ornament, the study says the absence of the toe rings has been noticed in the Ajanta cave paintings. From the fifth century A.D. onwards, a new style in ornaments has been developed.

The anthropologists record that certain ornaments, considered to be the symbols of marriage, are worn by women on specific parts of the body.

In the southern parts of the country including Maharashtra, Mysore, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, the marriage symbol is worn round the neck while in the northern parts, the symbol is worn on wrist, nose and toe.

In Madhya Pradesh, when a widow remarries, she wears "pagila," a neck ornament, to ward off the evil influence of the dead husband's spirit.

The number of "pagila" increases with the number of remarriages.

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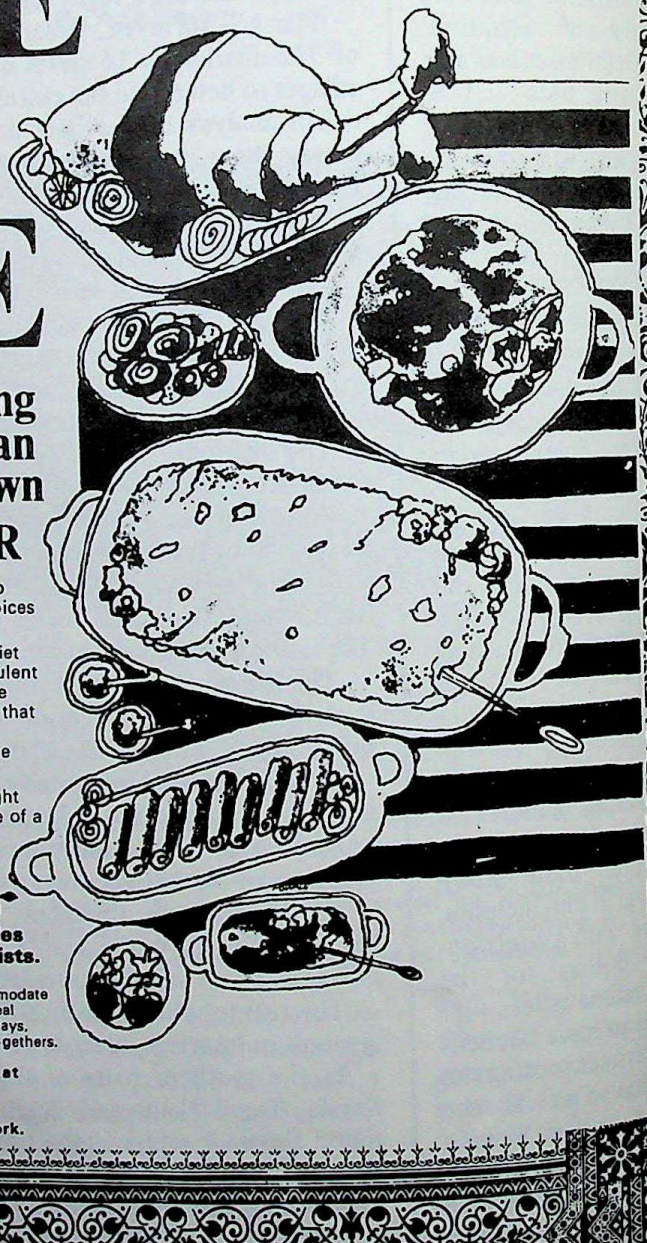
THE SPICE OF LIFE



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Secretarial Courses & Indian Girls

MANJU DHIRI, the Deputy Editor of London based Harambee African News Service was in Nairobi recently. She visited several Secretarial Colleges to assess the progress and problems of young Indian girls aiming to be secretaries. She sets out below what she saw and feels about it.

A day with young girls from all walks of life on what takes them into this secretarial field was encountered by Manju Dhiri (Ms) while on her most recent visit to Kenyan capital this autumn.

My eye was first decked by finding that the number of Colleges is on the increase inducing the course of secretarial which is Shorthand, Typewriting, English Language, Office Practice and some Mathametical work. Asking the first lot of students in the High Speed class were found complaining that the majority of girl school-leavers get into this course because admission seems to be of no problem as an 'O' Level or under qualified are easily accepted. For Indian girls mainly the non-Kenyan citizens it is a matter of complusion rather than choice to get into a secretarial job as a work permit for them after leaving school is a big difficulty. Going into other professions such as Medical, Beauty-Courses, Teaching etc., etc., I was first told that influence is of vital necessity before one can get admission and there is also a vast competition for the more brighter candidates. An eighteen year old Meena Patel who holds a British Passport completed the full secretarial course in the appropriate duration period with a first class credit and passes in all the subjects is now waiting to join the housewives' world but sadly enough to say that she is unable to use her abilities.

Manjit Kaur of a Punjabi orgin explained that due to their strict tribal customs it is a taboo for our girls to work as secretaries, despite the fact she is a Kenyan citizen. But strange enough to see Manjit working as a secretary in her father's own industry was like a dream come true because of obvious reasons – like paying a good salary in one's own family is done rather generously!! and not forgetting to keep all business tactics within her family alone.

What Minaxi Shah thinks on the style and manner of a secretary's was of dressing. Lucky enough to say that she spends nearly one half of her monthly income on doubling the number of her items in the wardrobe, not failing to have a sample of both western and eastern fashions with a combination of local material.

Shamin and Noori Velji are sisters and both secretaries. They enjoy spending lavishly on trying to improve on their personal apparance by paying a regular visit to the beauty parlour making sure their faces, bare legs, arms and hands are kept clear and clean and infact spotless. Noori the younger of the two says that the first impression of the client is always the last and a smart, smiling face can surely boost the firm's business.

Spending a few hours at the Nairobi's very well known Institution "Speedway Secretarial College" seemed more like involving in a number of business for the varied work both the staff and the students put in. A part timer who hails from Tanzania finds it very convenient to choose her hours and not neglecting the occassional outings organised by the staff, the annual x-mas dance/party and of course other educational lectures or talks brought in by commerical groups. Speedway certainly speeds up the pass percentages and helps the successful students conquer the job problem.

Prem Sharma was pointing towards the seasonal rise in the tuition fees but added that not an average parent can afford to send their daughter for this course and end up in joining the bus stop queues thus leading in delays and fr frustrations.

Stepping inside a newly established Graffins College in the heart of the Nairobi town centre, where many of the students are from Asian families, made me conclude that the world of secretaries is on the big increase. A question from a local resident, "Hunting for a job and being disappointed if still without experience is a common thing" A college leaver is surely without experience to which my suggestion was to take up a part-time job and continue taking correspondance courses until the time you gain any luck in job-line. Another beginner from Graffins clearly pointed out that the amount of text books subscribed are not adequate, no matter where you belong. Twenty minutes within a class was quite sympathetic to realise the situation the girls today sail in.

The profession is attended by young ladies mainly from age group ranging from fifteen onwards but will Indian girls be given a high rank in the society after qualifying as a SECRETARY? This is a question which bothers me a lot of times . . .

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Hong Kong's Nepali Radio Service

Hong Kong radio listeners, idly tuning across the FM dial, are sometime surprised to hear Hindi or Nepali music and voices, in place of Cantonese or English. If they are Indian residents, their surprise quickly turns to pleasure as they recognise their favourite singer, or music from a remembered film.

The sounds come from the British Forces Broadcasting Service Hong Kong, a radio station operated by the British Ministry of Defence for the benefit of the Gurkha and British Servicemen and their families.

Under the command of a professional broadcaster, one of a team who are operating BFBS radio stations in many parts of the world, the Station puts out about 60 hours a week of programmes. About two-thirds are for the Nepali audience and one-third for the British.

Apart from the Station Controller, Mr. James Nation, a New Zealander, there is Mr. Eddie Wallace, a Scot, the Senior Engineer, but all the remaining staff are Nepalese, and all but two of them are serving soldiers, in various units of the British Army, but working as broadcasters for BFBS Hong Kong.

They come from The Queen's Gurkha Engineers, The Queen's Gurkha Signals, and from two infantry battalions – 2nd and 6th Gurkha Rifles. They are mostly from the ranks of clerks, but there are some technicians, of course. And there is one Gurkha wife also, on the announcing staff.

The Station grew out of a small broadcast facility established by the Gurkha Signals unit which was in Hong Kong in the early '50s. Out of touch with their colleagues and friends, who were with the Brigade of Gurkhas in Singapore and Malaysia, the signallers decided to help themselves by setting up a low-powered medium-wave transmitter, from which they broadcast programmes recorded by BFBS Far East, in Singapore, where the main Gurkha broadcasting service was located.

When the Brigade of Gurkhas moved to Hong Kong, in the early '70s, equipment and Gurkha staff from BFBS Far East was sent to Hong Kong from Singapore, and BFBS Hong Kong came into being. Now from smart, purpose-built studios in Sek King, in the New Territories, BFBS Hong Kong maintains a daily service not only for Gurkha listeners, but for British as well.

The Nepali programmes are as good and as varied as the Gurkha staff can make them. Under the direction of the Programme Organizer, Captain Kishor kumar Gurung, the station provides music programmes ranging from the most recent Hindi and Nepali popular music to classical music, and information programmes from birth control to information about Army matters.

News plays an important part, and daily bulletins bring the latest news from Kathmandu and the regions of Nepal. News from various units of the Brigade of Gurkhas is also broadcast daily, and emphasis is placed on helping the

"The biggest collection of Nepali records outside Nepal." Actually, most ef the records visible in this picture of the BFBS Hong Kong library are Hindi! The Librarian, Corporal Shantakumar Pradhan is selecting a record for his weekly programme Stay with Shanta.

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scattered elements of the Brigade to keep in touch with the main body in Hong Kong.

Drama, children's and women's programmes, farming information; all are included. And of course, requests, popular with radio audiences of whatever race; the BFBS request mail, especially at times like Dashera and Deewali, reaches astronomical proportions, and sometimes can be contained only by broadcasting extra hours!

Help from other organizations gives variety to programmes; various Nepalese ministries send radio programmes, and so does the BFBS Head Office in London, and the Nepali Section of the BBC, who send all their specially-produced Nepali programmes to BFBS Hong Kong. But most programmes are made by the Station staff, from the slender resources they have available.

A large part of the music output of the Station is Hindi. "There is not a vast amount of Nepali music available on discs", says Captain Kishore, "and so we must rely a lot on Hindi music for our programmes. Our listeners enjoy both, though they, prefer their own music, of course."

One of the most unusual programmes broadcast is an early-morning bilingual show, which may well be unique. Two presenters, one Gurkha and one British, working side-by-side, introduce Hindi and Nepali, or English, discs, and chat with each other. The programme contains English and Nepali news and information along with the music.

Started as a means of helping Gurkhas to improve their English (by letting them hear well-spoken English in an entertainment situation) the bilingual show quickly gained the approval of the Gurkha audience, and has become a firm favourite. It helps their English , too, according to reports.

Captain Kishore, and the Senior Announcer, W01 Jamyangdorje Lama, have both been with BFBS Hong Kong since the service moved from Singgapore, and thus have been able to provide the continuity which is so essential. Others usually serve for three-year periods, though sometimes they are able to return to broadcasting after a few years back with their regiments.

In production: Senior Technician Mr. Tekbahadur Rai (formerly of the Signals Regiment) operates the controls while W01 Jamyangdorje Lama Announcer, oversees the production of a programme for broadcast on BFBS.

The Programme Organizer, Captain Kishorkumar Gurung aims to doubl double the broadcasting hours in Nepali by this time next year. He helped start BFBS Hong Kong in 1971, having joined the staff while the Gurkha service was in Singapore.

They are all enthusiastic, though, and competition for an appointment to BFBS is very keen, even though the hours are long at times, and involve working on holidays and at other times when their colleagues and friends are at play or relaxing.

At present BFBS is operating on the original low-power medium-wave transmitter which wa about 1951, though an FM mitter was installed in th '70s and provides Hong Ko coverage. Early next year a medium-wave transmitter installed, and this is expe give excellent coverage. W new transmitter operati Station has plans for increa broadcasting hours, in 1980.

"If our plans go as we says Captain Kishore, "we just about double the nu hours in the next year. O that means more staff, bu means a lot more enjoym listeners. They have been a for lunch-time broadcast that will be the first step: we hope to add another ho evening programme. It w very happy day for us whe make these improvements

For those who wish t the Nepali programmes o the frequencies are: medi 1251 kHz (available in Territories only); FM, 90 (available on the south Kong Island only); and 9 (Colony-wide). And the schedules are published in & Entertainment Times week, with occasional arti programmes and personali

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The Marwaris

FROM PETTY TRADERS TO CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY

By K. L. Sharma

In a sociological study of wide range and importance, Thomas A. Timberg of the Harvard University has recently traced the origin and growth of the Marwari community, and the part it has played in commerce.

The Marwaris were already dealing in high finance in north India before the advent of the British. The Moghul power saw several semi-migrant communities grow up outside their homeland in Rajasthan. In the 18th century, the Jagat Seth House (Marwari Oswals) were established bankers to the Nawabs-Nazim of Bengal and were known for making or unmaking of Moghul emperors. Most men of this commercial class came from *Maroo Desh* (Marwar). They were mostly of Jain faith.

Straddling across the caravan routes in Marwar, these people known as *bania* (traders) travelled along the Ganga to Calcutta, Bihar and Assam as others spread to Bombay, Ahmedabad, Uttar Pradesh and central India.

With the establishment of British hegemony over India by 1860, communication facilities in the country steadily improved. The British started exploiting its agricultural produce like grain, indigo and cotton. The Marwaris were attracted to this trade. Originally there were wandering traders who lived in *basa* (collective messes) run by big firms or on a cooperative basis in the major towns. For instance, Mr. G. D. Birla's grand-father settled in a *basa* run on a cooperative basis by immigrants from his home town of Pilani, when he first arrived in Bombay in 1860's. Today the Birla family is on the top among industrialists.

Another trading community, the Gujaratis, also took advantage of the small sea ports and migrated from Gujarat to South India and Africa. It is, therefore, no wonder that the majority of Indian entrepreneurs belong either to the Marwari or Gujarati community.

The Monopolies Enquiry Commission in its report in 1964 listed 37 largest north Indian owned industrial houses which control half of the assets in the non-financial sector of the organised industrial economy. The Marwari group alone owns 147 large enterprises, including 23 jute mills, 34 cotton textile mills, 11 sugar mills, 8 cement factories and interests of one sort or another in almost every available line of endeavour.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Analysing Marwari entrepreneurship, Timberg says: "The genius of a trading community lies in its manipulation of credit." This helps it to play a dominant role in industrial development. It then secures raw materials and markets for finished products of industry.

Colonial India enabled this trading community to emerge from village traders and money lenders to big merchants and bankers. They had a good organised commercial intelligence.

Over the last 150 years, the Marwaris accumulated capital in trade, became leading importers and exporters, stockbrokers and speculators and emerged as industrialists after the First World War. Some of the names have become famous over the years, the Birlas, the Oswals, the Maheshwaris, the Goenkas, the Jaipurias, the Jalans, the Dagas, the Dalmias, the Bajorias, the Aggarwals and many more.

They traded in opium, cotton and grain and took advantage of the apathy of the local people. Soon they were handling trade in ghee, tobacco and even in Kashmiri shawls and wools. Leading Marwari firms started fanning out by opening branches all over the country. They developed the jute trade and later the tea gardens in Assam and North Bengal. The Marwaris became the natural agents to British business houses in port cities.

The First World War saw the Marwaris move into new lines of

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business. Coal was among the mining industries which attracted their attention. They also set up sugar mills and cement factories. They rose to positions of eminence in trade, commerce and industry. And yet, it is astonishing to know that the number of Marwaris in Calcutta was less than 15,000 in 1921.

CHARITIES

If the Marwaris were fond of money they were also known for their philanthropy. They spend huge sums on charities, marriages, death ceremonies and on building palatial houses. On the death of one well known Marwari in 1908, 75,000 persons attended the obsequies and each was given a rupee and food, the total expenses being Rs. 250,000.

With the spread in education and social outlook a change also came over the Marwaris; they joined movements for nationalism, social reforms and modernisation.

After independence the emphasis was on rapid industrialisation of the country through systematic planning and development. The Marwaris took advantage of it. They also bought European managing agencies. Large business houses appeared on the industrial skyline. In 1964 at least 38 per cent of the assets of the largest Indian owned firms belonged to the Marwari group.

1 KG. HAIR FROM BOY'S STOMACH

One kilogram of hair has been taken out from the stomach of a boy during an operation performed by a doctor at the Mahatma Gandhi Hospital in Jodhpur.

The eighteen-year-old boy, Ram Kishore, had been fond of eating hair for the last sixteen years. He gradualy developed a tumour and had frequent bouts of stomachache.

Dr. Singhvi had earlier operated upon a woman, also of Nagaur district, and took out a bunch of hair weighing 750 grams last year.

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Planter Who Wrested Political Leadership From The Professionals

Memorable Events in the Life of late Tun Sambanthan

By G. S. Muthukrishnan

PATTERN OF LEADERSHIP

Several Asian countries, particularly members of the British Commonwealth, have experienced a peculiar phenomenon during their political development. It was that leadership in the initial stages and even for several decades thereafter was a sort of monopoly in the hands of lawyers, and to a lesser extent, doctors. Members of the other professions, such as scholars and journalists, trade unionists and businessmen, came on the scene only later, some far later. Why this should have been so, is not the subject of this article, but this pattern of leadership had been most evident in India and among Indians abroad. Malaysia and Singapore too were no exceptions. The pioneers in this field in Malaysia – especially those prominent in the public life during the early part of this century – were Mr. P. K. Nambiar, the first Indian member of the then Straits Settlement Legislative Council; Dr. Sir Hassan Huseinally Abdulcaader, he first and only Malaysian Indian o be knighted by the British nonarch; Mr. H. N. Veerasamy, the irst Indian Member of the Federal egislative Council; Dr. S. R. Krishnan and others of the early olonial period. Far later, during he decades before and after the Second World War those prominent in the political life were Mr. N. Raghavan, President of the Central Indian Association of Malaya and later Indian Ambassador to Peking; Mr. John A. Thivy, No. 2 in the Indian Independence Movement during the Second World War, next only to its leader Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, and later Government of India Representative in Singapore; Dr. M. Lukshumeyah, President of the Indian Independence League, Malaya; and after the war, Mr. R. Ramani, Malaysian Representative at the United Nations wellknown for his tactful handling of the Sabah crisis.

In Singapore, we had Mr. N. C. Goho, veteran criminal lawyer who played a great part in saving our community during the Japanese invasion of Singapore; his brother-in-law Mr. A. N. Mitra, also a lawyer and the President of the Malayan Indian Congress, Singapore Branch, which after Singapore became an Independent Republic, was renamed Singapore Indian Congress; and Mr. K. P. Kesava Menon, veteran Indian Congressman of Kerala who with Mahatma Gandhi's permission came over to Malaya to practise law, but later went back as Indian Ambassador to Ceylon and finally to his own old editorial chair of the leading Malayalam newspaper *The Mathrubhoomi* of Calieut.

All these leaders above mentioned are now no more.

NEW LEADERS ON THE SCENE

The grip of lawyers and doctors on the political leadership of our community was broken by the late Tun Sambanthan (the subject of this article) in Malaysia and by Mr. John Jacob in Singapore. Tun Sambanthan was a planter when took over the leadership of the Malayan (late renamed Malaysian) Indian Congress in 1955 from the late Mr. Kundanlal Devaser, a lawyer, while Mr. Jacob was (and still is) a businessman when he succeeded the late Mr. A. N. Mitra, also a lawyer, as President of the Singapore Indian Congress in 1957 (then known as the Malayan Indian Congress, Singapore Branch). Tun Sambanthan retained his leadership or the MIC for full 18 years and by virtue of it (MIC is a partner of the ruling Alliance Party now known as National Front) was also a Senior Cabinet Minister. In 1974 the present incumbent Tan Sri V. Manickavasagam, a businessman, succeeded him as MIC leader. He is still continuing to lead the Congress and also serving the nation as a

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Cabinet Minister. In Singapore, Mr. Jacob is still heading the SIC.

On Aug. 20, 1966, on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the Malaysian Indian Congress, in Kuala Lumpur, its then National President and Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications Tan Sri Sambanthan (only later he became Tun) invested the Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman with the Golden Robe — the traditional Indian way of honouring great men. The Tunku's wife, Puan Sharifah Rodziah was also presented with a golden shawl by Puan Sri (later Toh Puan) Sambanthan.

Picture taken in the early 1960's when your correspondent (white-haired centre) was associated with Tun Sambanthan's newspaper The Malayan Times as its political correspondent in Singapore. He was interviewing Tun Sambanthan during one of his visits to Singapore. At right is the Malayan Times' Bureau Chief in Singapore, Mr. Koh Peng Long, who is now Second Secretary (Commercial) at the Singapore High Commission in Kuala Lumpur.

OTHER PROMINENT INDIAN LEADERS

Indian leaders from other walks of life who have achieved even greater influence both nationally and internationally are Dr. P. P. Narayanan, veteran trade unionist who began life as a winchman on a rubber estate. Founder-secretary General of the National Union of Plantation Workers, the largest trade union in Malaysia, Dr. Narayanan is also President of the prestigious International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICTFU), President of the Malaysian Trades Union Congress, Chairman of the Workers Bank and a host of other enterprises launched for the benefit of the working class. He was also a Member of the Federal Legislative Council in the early days. His counterpart in Singapore is the equally internationally prominent trade unionist Dr. C. V. Devan Nair, formerly a Member of the Malaysian Parliament (when Singapore formed a part of the Malaysian Federation), and now a Member of the Singapore Parliament. He is also President of the Singapore National Trades Union Congress, of the ICTFU Asian Regional Organisation, and also various workers' co-operatives. He was a teacher before he entered trade unionism and politics.

MEMORABLE EVENTS IN TUN SAMBANTHAN'S LIFE

As a newspaperman, I had closely followed Tun Sambanthan's activities ever since he took over the MIC presidentship and also met him a few times while covering the annual sessions of the Congress. Later, in the 1960's, I came to know him very closely especially during the hectic years of Singapore's merger with Malaysia, the unhappy course of the political union and its ultimate breakup resulting in the emergence of Singapore as an independent Republic; for during those years I was also the Political Correspondent of Tun Sambanthan's own newspaper *The Malayan Times*, now defunct. He always maintained an open house, and extended his hospitality to anyone who went to see him. A tall and athletic personality, he stuck to his Indian dress of *dhoti* and *kurta* and occasionally an *angavastram* (upper cloth) even at official functions for several years; and only far later in his political career did he don the trousers, coat and tie. I still cannot say which suited him better but he looked grand in both types of attire.

Another memorable feature was the personal example he had set in breaking down caste distinctions. Though a non-Brahmin himself, he married a Brahmin lady. Very religious-minded and given to promoting temple activities, Tun Sambanthan had done a lot to preserve and foster Indian culture and traditions in Malaysia. One of his unfinished project is a temple in Parit Buntar, some 220 miles north of Kuala Lumpur. This temple, many devotees claim, would be one of the best in the country when completed. He had also laid the foundation stones of the M$1,000,000 *Rajagopuram* (main entrance tower) of the Sri Maha

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Diwali Greetings

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Mariamman Temple in Jalan Bandar, Kuala Lumpur, and the Hindu Temple at Parit, near Tanjong Karang, some 50 miles north of Kuala Lumpur, and also helped in mixing cement at the foundation laying ceremony of the Sri Saratha Orphanage by Swamiji Vireshwarananda Maharaj at Rinching Estate, Semenyih, 20 miles south of Kuala Lumpur, besides participating in many other similiar cultural and welfare activities.

FOUNDED BIGGEST CO-OPERATIVE

His most outstanding achievement – a monument to perpetuate his name – is the National Land Finance Co-operative Society (NLFCS) which he founded in 1960. In the latter part of the 50's fragmentation of estates by speculators out to make big money in short time rendered thousands of workers mostly Indians jobless, and it was to counter this menace, that Tun Sambanthan founded the NLFCS. The Society bought up estates facing fragmentation and managed them on a co-operative basis, thereby enabling the resident workers to carry on with their jobs. They also bought shares in the co-operative and thus became owner-workers of the estates where they still live and work. The Society now has some 60,000 members, is more than 30,000 acres of cocoa, coconut, oil palm and rubber plantations and is the single largest co-operative in the country.

"NO BETTER FRIEND" – TUNKU

"Father of the Nation" and former Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman in a glowing tribute to Tun Sambanthan said: "I don't think I can find a better friend than him. As my colleague in the Cabinet, he worked very hard and his loyalty was unquestionable. We were more a family than a Cabinet."

TUN SAMBANTHAN ONE OF THE BIG FOUR

Throughout the nearly two decades of Tun Sambanthan's leadership of the Malaysian Indian Congress and concurrent membership of the Ministerial Cabinet, the nucleus of political leadership comprised of four personalities including himself. The others were two Malays and one Chinese. The Malays were invariably the Prime Minister and his deputy, – Tunku Abdul Rahman and Tun Abdul Razak respectively. After the Tunku's retirement, Tun Razak took over with the present Prime Minister Datuk Hussein Onn as his Deputy. After Tun Razak's death Datuk Hussein became the prime minister and is still continuing in that post. The Chinese member of the leadership nucleus was Tun Tan Siew Sin, Finance Minister. He retired some years ago and is now Financial Adviser to the Government. Picture taken on Jan. 6, 1969, shows the Big Four in the front row – from left: Tun Abdul Razak, Tunku Abdul Rahman, Tun Tan Siew Sin and Tun Sambanthan. It was taken at the Kuala Lumpur Airport when the Tunku was leaving for London to attend the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference.

Prime Minister Datuk Hussein Onn described Tun Sambanthan's death as a great loss to the country and the people, particularly those of Indian origin. In a condolence message to the departed leader's family, Datuk Hussein said Tun Sambanthan was a political veteran who had contributed much in ideas and energy to the country's independence, development and unity. Tan Sri Manickavasagam said Tun Sambanthan would always be remembered as one of those who signed the nation's Independence Agreement with Britain.

LIFE SKETCH IN A NUTSHELL

Tun V. T. Sambanthan (*full name*: Veerasami Thirugnana Sambanthan) was born in Sungei Siput in Perak State, 160 miles north of Kuala Lumpur, on June 16, 1919. After high school education in his home state he went to the Annamalai University in South India where he took the Bachelor of Arts degree in 1953. On his return, he started helping in the running of his vast family estates comprising rubber, coconut and other plantations. Simultaneously, he also interested himself in public activities and organised the Perak United Indian Council with the aim of unifying the various Indian organisations in the state. In 1955 when he was only 35, he switched on to politics, and won

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More than ten years ago – on Nov. 3, 1968, to be exact – Tun Sambanthan while he was the Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications, laid the foundation stone of the M$1,000,000 "Rajagopuram" (main entrance tower) of the new Sri Maha Mariamman Temple in Kuala Lumpur. Picture shows the Indian leader performing the puja just before laying the foundation stone. Standing beside him is his wife, Toh Puan Uma Sambanthan.

the presidentship of the Malaysian Indian Congress (MIC) then known as Malayan Indian Congress, in a straight fight against the late Mr. Kundanlal Devaser, a lawyer. The same year, he was also elected to the Central Legislative council from Sungei Siput and by virtue of his office as a leader of the MIC which is a partner of the ruling Alliance, he was appointed to the Ministerial Cabinet and remained with the Cabinet throughout the 18 years he was leader of the MIC. He was successively Minister of Labour, of Health, of Posts, Works and Telecommunications and finally Minister of National Unity. When he retired from MIC leadership in favour of the incumbent Tan Sri V. Manickavasagam Minister of Communications, Tun Sambanthan became Chairman of the National Unity Board which replaced his erstwhile Ministry.

THREE-MILE LONG FUNERAL PROCESSION

On the morning of May 18 this year, after breakfront at his residence in Guillemard Road, Kuala Lumpur, he was about to leave for his office to preside over a meeting of the National Unity Board when he had a heart attack, and within a few minutes died in the ambulance which was rushing him to hospital. His body was taken to his family home in Sungei Siput in the afternoon and cremated the next day. The funeral was attended by more than 15,000 people of all races, including cabinet ministers, members of the diplomatic corps, Members of Parliament and State Assembles, government officials and community leaders. The three-mile long funeral procession went round the town before heading for the crematorium. A leader of the nation's struggle for Independence, Tun Sambanthan who would have been 60 this June, leaves his wife, Toh Puan Umasundari and daughter Deivakunjari, 20, their only child.

SIGNIFICANCE OF TITLES EXPLAINED

In Malaysia, the honorific titles conferred by the Malaysian King (Paramount Ruler) and other Malay Rulers are always used even in ordinary conversations when addressing the recipients or referring to them even after their death. *Tun* is the highest and most conveted title conferred by the Malaysian King and is equivalent to a British peerage. In precedence, it is next only to the *Tunku*, (also spelt as Tengku) which is a hereditary title and means a prince of the Malay royal family. Next to the Tun are *Tan Sri* and *Datuk* (old spelling Dato, Dato, Datoh etc.) – Tan Sri conferred by the King and Datuk by the other Malay Sultans – and these are equivalent to a British Knighthood. The wife of the Tun is automatically called *Toh Puan* while the feminine for Tan Sri is *Puan Sri* and for the Datuk it is *Datin.*

SMUGGLING OF GOLD GOES ON

The gold smuggled into India every year is estimated at 50 tonnes involving foreign exchange of approximately Rs 3,000 million according to the Dagli Committee on controls.

The current annual demand for new gold ornaments is placed at around 85 to 90 tonnes. About 75 tonnes of new ornaments are sold annually by about 10,000 dealers. Private jewellers handle another 10 to 15 tonnes of ornaments. The entire demand is perhaps met through smugging.

Gold is sought as a hedge against inflation and for speculative purposes. It is a convenient from of holding black money.

The Committee notes smuggling of gold has continued unabated despite gold control policy and preventive measures.

The Reserve Bank's gold auctions last year did not help to reduce the price of gold or raise the resources as expected, the Dagil Committee said.

The Dagil Committee expresses the view that gold control has failed in its objectives, except causing harassment to small jewellers.

The policy options it poses before the Government are to import gold involving foreign policy with a "facade" of gold control, or to switch over to compulsory - endorsement of 18 carat in place of the present 22 carat gold jewellery.

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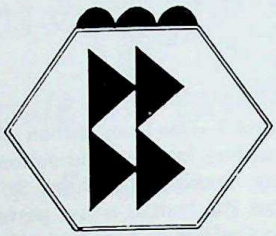

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110TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF MAHATMA GANDHI CELEBRATED

The 110th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi was celebrated at the Gandhi Memorial International School, Jakarta in a unique spirit of the International Year of the Child. Usually someone of Ministers rank becomes the Guest of Honour but this time about 15 inmates from various orphanages of Jakarta were invited to participate in the celebration as the Chief Guests. The whole programme was organised and conducted by children of the school.

Gandhi's favourite hymns were sung and students belonging to different religions recited verses from the Holy Quran, Bible, Dammapada, Gita and Guru Grant Sahib.

It was for the first time that the opinions of prominent Indonesian leaders about Mahatma Gandhi were read. Vice President of Indonesia, Adam Malik was quoted as saying: "I can truthfully say that we in Indonesia are deeply indebted to him for his teachings which have been, still are, and always will be a dynamic force in out flight against injustice, poverty, colonialism and all other forms of oppression and for peace and dignity of all human beings."

Minister Coordinator for People's Welfare, General Surono, was quoted as saying: "The ideals of Gandhi have echoed all over the world. There is no man in this world who does not recognise Gandhi's greatness and nobility of soul."

Inmates of various orphanages in Jakarta who were Chief Guests at the 110th Birth Anniversary celebrations at the Gandhi Memorial International School, Jakarta, are seen here with the Charge d'Affaires Mr. Shukla & Mrs. Shukla, Mr. & Mrs. V. Ram, and Sri Nagarajan 1st Secretary, Indian Embassy. About 3000 children belonging to various orphanages were served lunch packets on 2nd October 1979.

Minister of Information, Ali Murtopo, gave his opinion of Gandhi: "Indeed, Gandhi's ideas were greater than Gandhi himself; 30 years after his death, these ideas continue to be valid and relevent to the needs of the present-day world".

Minister/State Secretary, Sudharmono, expressed his opinion about Gandhi as "Champion of Swadeshi and Peace Revolution. With his death Gandhi becomes a monument in the history of mankind".

Prof. Dr. Mahar Mardjono, Rector of University of Indonesia, stated that Gandhi "will be remembered throughout history as a leader of peace".

Attorney General Ali Said S.H. said "The crusade of Mahatma Gandhi is considered to be successful if the people of India and of the world continuously strive to live and practice his noble ideas".

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from

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Home Minister, Amir Machmud, was quoted as saying': "Gandhi's philosophy was clearly expressed in the language of beauty, harmony and integrity".

Cabinet Secretary, Ismail Saleh, said of Gandhi: "I admire him for his patience and perseverence, especially his theory of non-violence".

Minister of Religious Affairs, Alamsyah Prawiranegara, stated his opinion of Gandhi: "To me, Mahatma Gandhi evoked the keenest admiration and respect, as he really proved the oneness of words and deeds".

All those assembled including the Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of India, R.C. Shukla, and the Ambassador of Iraq Hisham Tabaqchali, stood in silent prayer of one minute in sweet memory of late Moh. Said, a prominent educationist of "Taman Siswa", who had been a regular visitor of Gandhi's birthday celebration.

After the programme, about 30 groups of students in 30 cars left the school with lunch packets for various orphanages in Jakarta, General Hospital Dr. Cipto, Old Men's Homes, mental asylum etc.

Mr. V. Ram, Principal of Gandhi Memorial International School disclosed that in all about 3000 children in various social institutions will be served lunch by the students.

Books on Mahatma Gandhi were presented to all the 15 inmates of orphanages who attended the celebration.

DUTY & LOVE

A mother's love transcends all barriers. Gulbanubai a 52-year-old woman, who had lodged a complaint with the Dongri Police against her son for stealing her ornaments came to court to bail him out finally.

She lodged the complaint when she came to know that her gold ornaments were missing. She suspected her son Allaudin Mohomodali (28).

The police were swift in their action. They arrested Allaudin and a few slaps got the truth out with little difficulty.

The son had kept the stolen ornaments in a safe seposit vault of Punjab National Bank. When police recovered the stolen property Gulbanubai had a twinge of remorse for complaining against her son.

The police handcuffed him and took him away to custody. She could not stand the scene.

She walked into Mazgaon Court, engaged an advocate and made an application to release her son on bail.

Metropolitan Magistrate S. L. Dipali of Mazgaon Court released Allaudin on bail worth Rs. 2,000.

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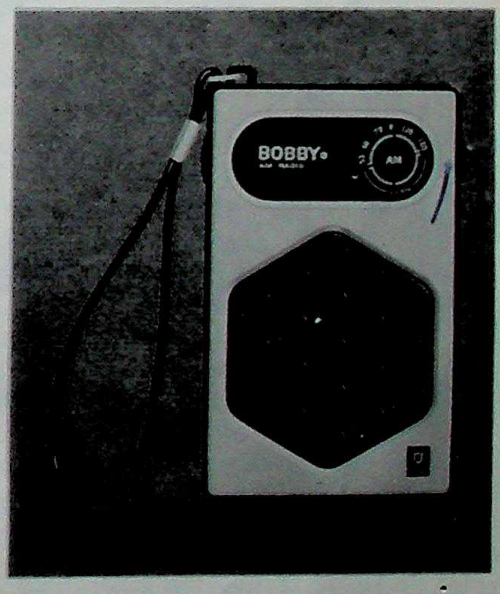

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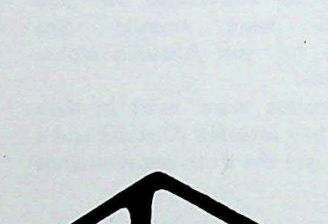

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LATA MANGESHKAR

INDIA'S HEART THROB SPEAKS...

By Shamlal Puri

Lata Mangeshkar's voice has been heard all over the world by lovers of Indian music. This is the voice which has sung the highest number of songs in the world and all of them have been made into highly popular discs. She has sung more than 20,000 songs. Her voice has echoed in more than 2,000 films. Lata has not only sung in India's main languages but even in Swahili and Russian, where her voice has simply mesmerised millions of people.

Referring to Lata's voice, commented India's *Sunday Standard*, "To live in Lata's era is a very great blessing."

The Holland daily, "De Volkshrant" had this to say about Lata in a very impressive article, "Lata occupies the position of a legendry heroine for the lovers of Indian music."

Behind Lata's success and love for music, there is a long story of her simple life and reverence which starts in 1942, when she sang her first song in the Marathi film 'Pehli Manglagor'. And, since then, this beloved daughter of singer-actor-director, Dinanath Mangeshkar has hypnotised millions of lovers of Indian music all over the world with her melodious voice.

When Lata walks on the stage, barefeet and clad in a white sari, for live shows, very little attention is focused on her short stature; very little attention is paid by the people present to the tresses of her long hair, which almost touch her body. It just seems as if a devotee has come to pray to her Lord.

By listening to Lata's voice, the ears are simply purified . . . .

Below, we present excerpts of an interview with Lata Mangeshkar, the heart throb of millions of lovers of Indian music:

Lata: First of all, I learnt singing from my father, as you know, my father was not only Maharashtra's but India's greatest singer and stage artiste. I was about 5 or 6 years of age, when I started learning how to sing from him. I used to learn classical music only.

Q: In those days, when you started learning music and singing, in your childhood, from your father, how much practice could you have?

Lata: At that time, I couldn't really practice too much because at that time, I was very little. But by the God's grace, one thing with me is that I could learn things very easily, he didn't have much difficulty in teaching me and even, I didn't have much difficulty in learning it.

Q: After your father, did you have any other gurus (teachers)?

Lata: Yes, after my father's death, in 1944, I started learning 'Gandapan' music from Amanali of Bhindi Bazaar. After that I learnt something for some days from Amanath Khan Devas.

Q: Which of the schools of music have impressed you the most?

Lata: I think, overall all the *gharanas* (schools) are nice but I particularly like Kirana Gharana, where Bade Gulam Ali wasa student. I think, Kirana Gharana's singing is better from women's point of view.

Q: After Bade Gulam Ali Khan, which are the other classical musicians whom you admire?

Lata: After Bade Gulam Ali Khan, I used to love Amir Khan Sahib's songs and my brother Hridyanath is his student. These days Bhimsen Joshi and Ali Akbar, who plays Sarod impress me.

Q: You have sung for Khemchand Prakash to Pandit Amarnath,

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Hussanlal Bhagatram, A.R. Qureishi, S. D. Burman, Naushad, Laxmikant Pyarelal, Shankar Jaikishan, the late Madan Mohan. Apart from these, today's upcoming young musicians are Rajesh Roshan, Bhappi Lahiri, you have worked with all these music directors and you have sung for them. This is a very big wave, I think it's an era. In this wave, what sort of changes have you seen in Indian music? In your opinion, what sort of changes have affected the scene of Indian music?

Lata: Khemchand Prakash or Shyam Sundar or Naushad or the other prominent music directors of yester-years apart, when Shankar Jaikishan came on the scene, they brought their own brand of music. It was such a music that it was liked by the common man. But the music directors who came after them mostly copied the music of all these musicians. In this category, I can name Laxmikant Pyarelal as well. The late Roshan Lal and Madan Mohan had a very nice and a melodious style. The music directors of these days do give the music but it has more of a western influence. They believe in Western music – people like Rajesh Roshan or Bhappi Lahiri. I see more of a Western influence on their music.

Q: Even then, do you think generally speaking, our music has been overtaken by Western influence. In our own music, the melody of yester-years is decreasing and is being replaced by the noise of musical instruments only?

Lata: No, the influence of Western music existed in India. Even before there were some songs which C. Ramchandran used to compose which had some Western touch. But these days, our music directors have completely ignored our music. Neither Western music nor Indian music is used these days and there seems to be something in between the Indian and Western music. The overall result is that the melody of Indian music is decreasing. Even then, I'll say, there are some songs which R.D. Burman or Laxmikant Pyarelal have rendered, for example, I have sung their songs in 'Satyam Shivam Sundaram' of Laxmikant Pyarelal or R.D. Burman's 'Kinara' or 'Ghar', which are still with a tinge of Indian music. The songs in these films make me feel that R.D. Burman has been influenced by his father S.D. Burman. I also think even this is the case in Laxmikant Pyarelal's 'Satyam Shivam . . . . . '

Q: After music directors, let us now discuss light music singers. Do you like female or male singers?

Lata: I like both, because who ever sings nicely and whose song touches my heart the most that song is nice. But the way, Sehgal Sahib's songs touch my heart, no one else's can. I'll say, every singer is in his or her own place, he is a nice singer and is a great singer. Every artiste has his or her own style, the late Mukesh had his own style, Hemant Kumar has his own style, Rafi, Manna Dey or Kishore Kumar. Asha is my sister, how can I praise her but these days in female singers, she (Asha Bhonsle) is a very great artiste. For the new singers, I can only say, they should learn some classical music instead of trying to copy popular singers.

Q: You have started concert tours only recently. Before this, you have been singing for so many years, but you never went out of Bombay, you were mainly recording in the studios. I think by giving concert tours abroad, you have started a new trend, so, will you continue these tours abroad?

Lata: In the beginning when I started playback singing, we had a lot of work and to work was my main aim. Now what has happened is that I have started travelling abroad a little bit to do programmes. To do many programmes does not suit my nature and health because to sing a lot is also not good. Moreover, one has to devote a lot of time for concerts and I lack this time. Now that I have started concert tours, I shall try to visit overseas countries once a year or once in two years to give programmes.

Q: Lata Mangeshkar, I ... you as a very great perso... an ambassador of India. ... wishes are always with yo... you.

Lata: Thank you. Th... very much.

Celebration Of Death

Death is always mourned at the Rajneesh Ashram it is ... ed, for it is attaining "life eter...

The death of the fou... Acharya Rajneesh, Swami Dev... Bharti (68), was celebrated ... disciples when he died after ... illness in Pune.

In a discourse Acharya Ra... said: "It can only be cele... when it leads to higher p... existence."

The body of Devatirtha ... was kept in the discourse hall ... thousands of disciples danc... sang.

Swami Devatirtha was ... disciple of his own son.

Madras Hote... Serving Peacock Me...

Peacock, the national b... India, is being served as a del... some posh hotels in this city ... ing to the Tamil Nadu governm...

Schedule one of the Wild... tection act, 1972, provides ... legal protection to this bi... escape legal scrutiny, the bird ... served as 'fowl'.

In a bid to protect the bi... extinction the state governm... requested the management ... western style hotels not to ... peacock as an item of food.

Apart from being the ... bird, the peacock is co... sacred, for it is the 'vahana' ... of Lord Muruga, a deity ... Tamils.

After o... in Kenya f... inspired by ... geared up ... The Himala... This yea... from India ... the organis... They were ... with the ... at Nairob... amount of ... this event ... register the ... Association ... on the lines ...

Safari ... Bhardwaj, ... act as a c... layan Rally ... 11, 1980 fr...

The orga... Rally are ... challenge ... Indian terra... of the ye... unleashing ... many top r...

Already, ... drivers have ... interest to ... over to take ... The Him... is "a challe... what it real... start will b... politan city ... in mind th... generated i... London-Syd... oute will ... our stage... 500 kms. ... The rally ... illy section ...

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The Himalayan Rally A Challenge

By Kul Bhushan

After observing the Safari Rally in Kenya for three years and being inspired by it, the Indians have now geared up to start their own event, The Himalayan Rally next year.

This year a four-man delegation from India came to Kenya to see the organisation of the Safari Rally. They were extremely impressed with the arrangements both at Nairobi and en route.The amount of enthusiasm generated by this event encouraged them to register their own Himalayan Rally Association and pattern their rally on the lines of the Safari.

Safari chairman, Dr. Bharat Bhardwaj, has kindly consented to act as a consultant to the Himalayan Rally which starts on August 11, 1980 from Bombay.

The organisers of the Himalayan Rally are also confident that the challenge and competition that Indian terrain presents at that time of the year with the monsoon unleashing at full fury will attract many top rally drivers from Kenya.

Already, some of the local drivers have shown a considerable interest to fly their cars and crews over to take part in this event.

The Himalayan Rally is dubbed as "a challenge" and a challenge is what it really promises to be. The start will be at the major cosmopolitan city of Bombay keeping in mind the tremendous interest generated in the city during the London-Sydney Rally. The entire route will be about 6,000 kms in four stages, each being about 1,500 kms.

The rally cars will traverse the hilly sections of the Western Ghats and the forest areas of Madhya Pradesh's rugged earth roads, with the first halt at possibly Jabalpore. Again some more of Madhya Pradesh's rough roads, then into Rajasthan with the second overnight halt at Delhi.

The Rally is then planned to head north into the foothills of the Himalayas where the third night halt will be, the rally then returns to Delhi by a different route to finish the event, after a week's car-breaking and backbreaking motoring.

As the event will be held in August, most parts of India will be well into the monsoons which will add to the challenge of conditions which even when dry are trying and considered difficult.

As the rally heads further north and east, the rainfall will diminish which means that this event will start at level and take competitors to altitudes over 4,000 metres.

Climatically, the conditions experienced will be from heavy rain which will peter out into dry belts and end in snow and ice. Temperatures will range from hot and humid to biting cold and gusty winds.

Few other countries in the world can match the variety India has to offer to rallyists and organisers hope that this event will only be the first in a series of what may well become the most competitive and challenging rally to be held anywhere in the world.

The organisers have plans to ensure that the final route will be so rugged as to tax the endurance of the best drivers in the world and the reliability under stress of the best cars in the world.

Flying out men and machines from Kenya to India will not be much of a problem as Air India is the main sponsor of the Himalayan Rally. As the official carrier for the event, the airline will play an active role in providing transport and customs clearance.

Talking about the dreaded customs regulations and the delays in India, Mr. Jimmy Martin, Air India's Public Relations Manager, assured me on his last visit to Nairobi that these formalities will not take any longer than in any other part of the world. He quoted the example of the London-Sydney Marathon cars and drivers being cleared through customs in minutes.

The Himalayan Rally Association, a non-profit organisation, has already been granted the sporting power of the world body of motorsport, the Federation International de L'Automobile (FIA), the Federation of Motor Sports Clubs of India the FIA representative in India, for the sole purpose of promoting this rally annually.

Mr. Nizar Hoosein, the chairman of this rally, is himself an accomplished motor racing driver, a rally enthusiast and a car buff who has spent many years in organising motoring events. He has visited Kenya ever since the Silver Jubilee Safari and kept a close watch on the backroom work that goes on in running the Safari.

Now, he will be on his own in putting up his own show which will hopefully touch new peaks of motoring adventure in India.

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BHANGRA

POPULAR FOLK DANCE OF THE PUNJAB

By Somnath Dhar

The zest for life of the Punjabis is best expressed in the spectacular community dance known as Bhangra. Rated among the most outstanding folk dances of India, Bhangra harks back to ceremonials connected with the growing and ripening of the golden wheat crop of the Punjab which continues to be a granary of India. It could well be a throwback to the harvest rituals of the Aryan immigrants from Central Asia.

The occasions for Bhangra performances are the sowing of the wheat crop and its ripening – the latter coinciding with Baisakhi festival which invariably falls on 13th April. An extroverted expression of the virility and gaiety of the Punjabis, Bhangra though primarily associated with agriculture has practically become a dance for all festive occasions. An enduring tourist attraction in the Punjab, as well as in Haryana, Delhi and nearby states, Bhangra has acquired a social secular character.

SONGS, CAPERS . . . . . .

The traditional links with the wheat crop continue. After the sowing of the wheat or when the first ears of the harvest have been offered by the Sikhs to the Gurud-

Feats of strength and wild capers go with the virile Bhangra dance, seen at its best in the rural setting. *Photos: Punjab Tourism*

wara, or by the Hindu farmers to the temple deity, young folks of the village collect in an open space in a field, preferably on a moonlit night. They form a large circle in answer to the beat of a drum. The circular shape of the Bhangra group makes it easy for newcomers to join, without breaking its continuity.

The circle goes on expanding. A large enough, viable ensemble, is formed with the drummer in the centre of the circle. He leads the dance from the moment Go – that is, when he beckons the young folks to assemble, with the resounding sound of his drum that travels far in the moonlit night. Two or more singers stand behind the drummer. Theirs too is an important role – for they are the sub-leaders.

What they have to guide is a simple enough operation except for the momentum it gathers , which is

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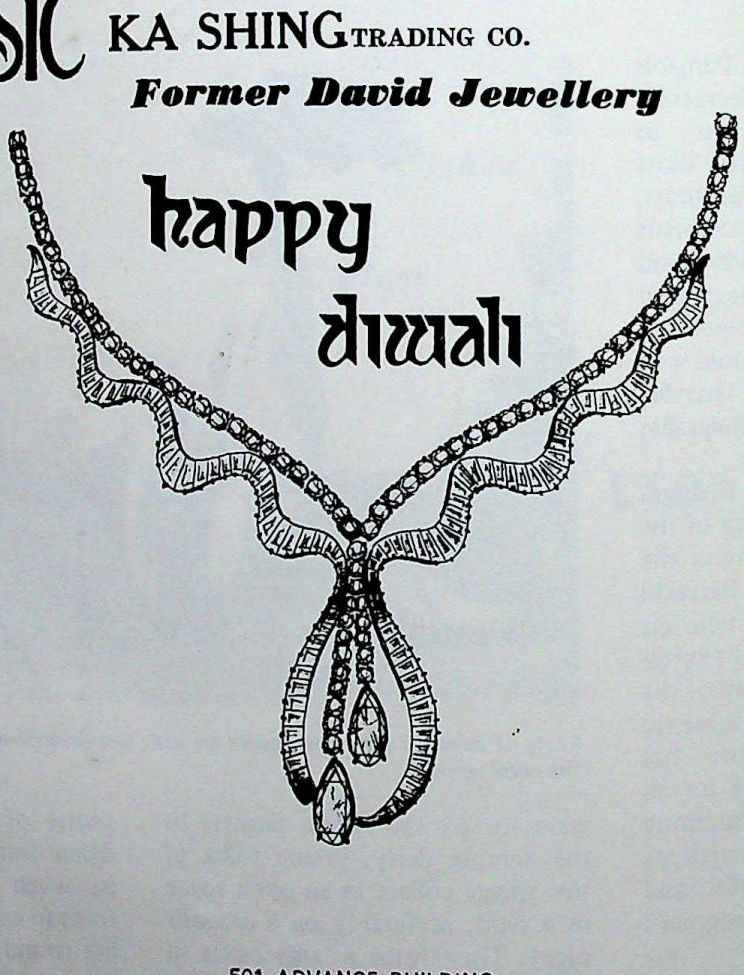

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The mixed dance of men and women, both wearing bright costumes — is one of the extroverted expressions of the Bhangra.

fantastic. The rhythm of the Bhangra dance is simple: 2/4 or 3/4. The *Boli* compositions that are traditionally sung to the accompaniment of the dance are usually picked from the immense repertoire of Punjab's folklore. The lines thus improvised are used to suit the mood, to the lusty shouting of refrains like 'Hoi, Hoi', 'Bale, Bale' or 'Uh-Uh', as the hefty dancers sturdily jump into the air. The total effect is spectacular.

Beginning with a slow movement – jerky movements of the shoulders and a hop step – the dancers carry on with vigorous movements of the whole body, the tempo increasing steadily, as it were, with every caper. At the same time, each dancer raises both hands to the shoulder level or above the head, in unison with others. The circle well established and the all-round tempo accelerated, the two leading dancers perform a kind of duet within the ring. Then, pairs come out from different sections of the Bhangra circle to dance in the central arc. Each pair executes many dancing movements, from the graceful to what look like feats of strength or Yogic postures! After these capers, pirouettes or, simply, extensions of legs, each pair returns to its place in the circle. Some of these movements can be amazing acrobatic feats of the torso, like touching the floor through a spinal back bend. One dancer may let another stand on his shoulders, while he himself dances on his knees.

..... BRIGHT COSTUMES

No rigorous rules bind the Bhangra dancer. There is plenty of opportunity for improvisation – via spontaneous vigorous movements, the wooden floor (when the performance is held indoors) resounding with the noise. The very masculinity of the Punjabis is reflected throughout in the vigour of the steps. The present writer has noticed (in India and abroad, in U.K., U.S.A., and in some places in Europe) that it is this characteristic blend of vigour and style that endears this people's dance to foreigners, whether they watch it in Punjab or Delhi, or when performances are put up in their own lands. The foreigners join the circle, linking hands with the dancers, who show them how to do the movements, jerks, hop step *et al*! During the New Delhi PATA (78) conference, the delegates and their spouses participated in Bhangra dances when they were conducted to nearby villages, like the Oberoi Farm, and in Haryana and Punjab, and a lot of *bonhomie* was generated.

The choreography of the Bhangra dance makes for interesting patterns besides the circle and the semi-circle. There can be two-tier or three-tier human formations, of one group of dancers balancing themselves sturdily on the shoulders of the other group already standing in a circle or semi-circle. Meanwhile, fast rhythm is generated, so much so that sound and movement seem to get merged one with the other.

That being the fantastic end product, one is left guessing what the meaning of the word Bhangra is. Shivajit Walia, a knowledgeable critic, has it that the word goes back to *Bhangar* – a carefree, happy-go-lucky person. That sums up the mood that the dance creates. He adds that Bhangra is the only folk dance of India where all gestures and movements typify happiness, what the French call *joie-de-vivre*.

In fact, the vigour and vitality of the Bhangra are so infectious that these have affected the folk dance genres of nearby and even some distant states. Since it is a free, uninhibited affair, the dance has moved away from the village habitat and the Baisakhi harvest ritual, to the towns and cities, where it is indulged in free manner on all social occasions. The happy, 'earthy' dance surely helps to proliferate the merrymaking.

The dress of the Bhangra folk contributes to the happy atmosphere. They are dressed in bright costumes, typical of the Punjabi peasant – a waist-coat, a *kurta* (open sleeve shirt) and a lower *dhoti*, the rustic ensemble topped by a bright coloured turban, called *pag*. The waist-coat may be black, more often than not, and studded

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From Filmland

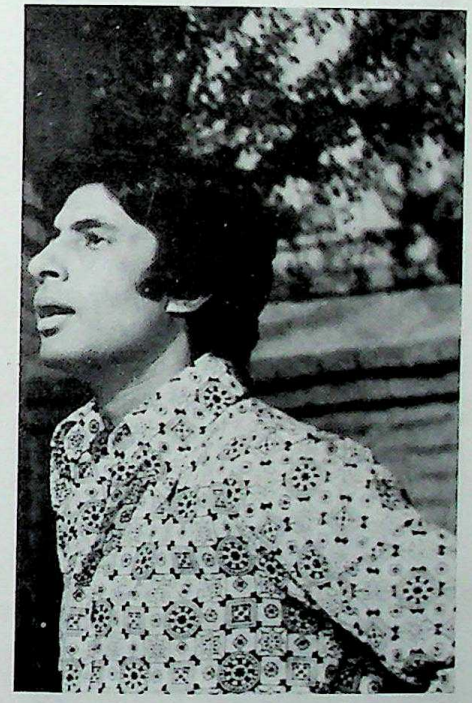
THE AMITABH ENIGMA

He has replaced the comely, gingerbread heroes of yesterday, the Dilip Kumars, Dev Anands and Rajesh Khannas, as the most popular star on the Hindi screen. He brings a new image of the film hero; of one who does not moralise or pine for love, but is cold, unemotional and has the precision of a machine.

Amitabh Bachchan has proved to be a unique phenomenon on the Indian screen. He has brought about a radical change in the very concept of the film here and, by the standards of the Hindi film, this is no mean achievement.

The new image which started with *Zanjeer* revolutionised the prevalent 'romantic' conception of the hero. The earlier image, nurtured for years by actors, some talented and some not, like Dilip Kumar, Dev Anand, Rajesh Khanna, Shashi Kapoor and Dharmendra, portrayed the 'goody-goody' man whose love-making showed strong narcissistic overtones.

This is most evident in Rajesh Khanna, whose mannerisms reflect a painful self-consciousness that makes him unsuitable for either the serious or the comic roles, In fact, *Bawarchi*, in which he did a funny role, practically spelt his doom. This was the comely, gingerbread hero who became quite easily and much too often the unwitting victim of circumstances and misunderstanding. This general state of infirmity was evident even in Shammi Kapoor, in spite of the latter's animal passion and sex appeal. Gimmicks like double-roles



and dream-sequences were necessary to prop up such images.

The advent of Amitabh has changed all that. A matter-of-factness characterises him. The image he projects is that of a uniquely purposive man whose intelligence helps him tailor has action to well-defined goals. In *Zanjeer*, for example, he has one passion – to get the man behind the smuggling and adulteration racket. Nothing else matters.

Not only does he exude a forbidding. wedged-in intensity but he has broken almost all the conventions of the earlier 'hero' prototype. For example, Indian audiences are not normally happy when the hero has to die. Amitabh has to 'die' in quite a few of his films *(Sholay* and *Mukkadar ka Sikandar,* for instance) and yet retains his irresistible hold.

The earlier hero was a man one of whose main occupations was to chase girls. Amitabh almost never does that. Girls, in fact, occupy a subordinate place in his cinematic life. And, when he does go for a girl (as in *Trishul* or *Kasme Vade),* there are always definite and clear-cut reasons, such as revenge or curiosity.

Not only is his passion directed towards the one accomplishment his role defines (to settle a score or redress an injustice), but he manages to give himself a terseness that has never existed before. He is a man of few words and does not indulge in speeches. When he does speak, he comes to the point at once. He does not misunderstand or act in haste. His action is a well-calculated one his entire energy is

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conserved to that end.

Besides, his anger (which he expresses most vividly and for which he is so popular) is precise and passionate. It is the energy of the machine, well-timed and totally destructive. In *Deewar*, he take a man and throws him out of a fifth floor window and does it calculatingly, efficiently and with controlled anger.

The revolution of the Hindi hero-image could not, perhaps, have been more evident that in the fact that he does not entirely identify himself with the middle-class, man our audiences are so used to. Dev Anand, Shashi Kapoor, Rajesh Khanna and Dharmendra, for example, needed to mouth typical idealisms and moralise in order to make themselves acceptable. Amitabh has dispensed with all that. He does not need mushroom idealism for he projects the image of a man fully aware of the seamy side of life. He does not romanticise people. His appraisal is matter-of-fact and to an inch. In *Sholay*, for example, he remains unimpressed by Amjad Khan and treats him with due condescension.

One reason for his extraordinary success is that he remains somewhat enigmatic. He seems to enter the film, wrought a good deal of destruction or resurrection and then leave the scene. Throughout, he remains a loner – independent, dignified and blunt. This is the enigmatic appeal of his personality, his overall uninvolvement. He is concerned only with what he has to achieve, beyond that, he keeps himself to himself. This is evident in *Sholay* of course, but it is equally evident in *Deewar*, *Trishul* and *Mukkadar ka Sikandar*.

In fact his is the semblance of the industrial man, a person whose commitment is to himself and whose passions and urges are calculated and fierce. He gives the impression of a highly sophisticated, computerised and up-to-date machine that mobilizes all its resources only when necessary and not otherwise. His cremation of his mother in *Trishul* is an instance of highly measured and direct emotion.

This is perhaps what accounts for the success of this gifted actor whose films have become great money-spinners and whose almost psychic hold over audiences is phenomenal.

An equally interesting aspect of the Amitabh Bachchan image is its great contrast and similarity to his archetypal film-enemy, Amjad Khan. Amjad Khan simulates the likeness of evils in industrial society. He is not interested in causing a rift between the hero and heroine or any such trifle, an activity that has been the main forte of almost all past villains. He does not give to himself minor goals though he values money and pleasure. He recognises that the action of evil is a goal in itself. To him, pity and similar sentiments are pointless and a waste of time. He looks for the thrill in killing and makes no distinction between young and old, male or female.

Both Amitabh and Amjad, one might suppose, seem to represent the two poles of modern society and both are two important abstractions of it. Equally impersonal, one stands for the efficiency and intelligence that derives its strength from the precise power of the machine and the other represents the same efficiency but which grows out of the savage energy of automation. The polarity is interesting and powerful and it holds up the dilemma of modern man. It is also an exclusive dilemma which brushes aside all sentimental questions of morality and ethics for the tenderhearted. It concerns itself with the sole question of power and combat. It is dynamic, vital and impossible to ignore.

— Kishare Valicha

SOVIET HONOUR FOR SATYAJIT RAY

The Indian director and producer Satyajit Ray, has been awarded an honorary prize to mark the anniversary of Soviet cinema.

The others to receive awards include Cezare Xavat... Italy, Andre Anneh Thornd... the GDR, King Vidoi of the U... States, Antonin Blousil of Cz... lovakia, Zoltan Fabri of H... Semben Usman of Senegal, Kawaerowicz of Poland, Kurosawa of Japan, Luis Bu... Spain and Rene Clair of Franc...

Meanwhile, five more co... have bought the Malayalam ... "Irumbazhigal" (Iron Bars). ... are Nigeria, Aden, Ethiopia, B... and Tanzania.

Annual contracts have ... concluded by the Film F... Corporation with Ma... Mauritius, Seychelles and Co... for the sale of Indian theatri... television films.

Malagasy and Mauritius wi... 40 Indian films annually. Sey... will buy five films.

Columbia has agreed to ... three Indian films. This is the ... time Indian films will ente... Latin American market.

KARAN DEWAN DEAD

Karan Dewan, the popular ... of the super hit film "Rata... the mid-forties, died in B... of cerebral stroke. He was 6... is survived by his wife M... former Marathi film star, two ... and five daughters.

Dewan, a graduate, ... considered a lucky star in the f... and early fifties. He figured in ... than 25 silver jubilee hits. His ... list of films includes "Tama... "Bhaijan," "Zeenat," "Piya ... Aja," "Teen Batti Char R... "Chhoti Bhabhi," "Sa... "Pardes," "Lahore," "B... "Dahej," "Madhu" and "Chan...

He also used to sing in h... lier films. "Duniya hamare pi... his duet with Lata Mange... from film "Lahore," was ... popular.

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Spotlight:

From Our London Reporter

A Film Career For Surinder

Meet Surinder Kumar Puri, a young British Asian whose clapper board of career shows an ambitious entry into the world of film-making. Born in Ujiji, Tanzania, in 1959, Surinder is Surinder is barely 20 years old. He went to school in Tanzania, India and finally arrived in London at the age of 14.

Young Surinder's ambitions have always rotated around film making. His is not interested to be an actor, which is a career favoured by almost every teenager, but his interest is in the technical side of film making. Surinder has set his heart on a career which is bound to take him behind the cameras, rather than in front of them, in a very successful manner.

After completing his secondary education at Cumberland School in London, Surinder spent a stint at the Theatre Royal, trying to study the technigues and the hectic life of people behind the stage. He worked as a spot light expert in a number of British plays.

He also went into Barking College of Technology where he studied the basic intricacies of film making. During his stay at this College, Surider made a few films and learnt the tricks of the trade. His animated film was applauded and welcomed into the College's library which stocks notable films made by the former students of the college, some of whom are film makers of repute on the British scene.

Now, to further his ambition, Surinder has been accepted as a student at the Croydon School of Art and Design where he will graduate as a professional film maker.

Surinder says, "A film maker is a student throughout his career and life is the biggest and the best subject he can study."

The Indian asked Surinder, why he did not wish to go into film acting? He replied, "Film making in itself is a big act. As a director, I will be teaching actors how to act their roles. Moreover, I am of the opinion the glamour of acting or the bug of acting bites into teenagers only! Once they are past their teens, they end up becoming professionals in other fields. Very few people really make it up as actors because it is a really frustrating profession. The days of genuine actors are past. Now-a-days, you simply have to know the producer and there you are in a role! Acting is not for me – I want to work my way through my profession and make films that can click on the minds of the audiences."

We asked Surinder the inevitable question: What sort of films would he like to make?

"Life is an entangled cobweb," he said philosophically, "I want to

Busy on the sets: Surinder filming a quickie.

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distangle this cobweb and study a lot of aspects of life. I think film is a true medium of looking at life. Obviously, a lot of things cross my mind when I look around. I think life is not only crime and horror drama but there are other subtle things, one can delve into, while making films. For instance, if I can think off-hand, a documentary on the life of Asians in Britain can do well. I have often come across a lot of Asians who actually live a life of misery, spend 22 hours out of a 24 hour day working in factories without even bothering to enjoy the fruits of their hardwork. If one were to look and study this aspect of their lives, one can graduate with a lot of true feelings of the innermost problems of these Asians. There are a lot of serious topics one can make films on. Obviously, the Bombay or Hollywood type of ingredients, I think, are not the only ones that can make films – I mean things like love, marriage, kissing, shooting, murders, car chase, drugs, boozing etc are not the only things that can make films. Take Satyajit Ray, whom I admire so much – his films are just superb – they are a lesson in life itself!"

What is his opinion of Indian films? The Indian asked Surinder.

"Indian films are more of an escapist drama. They just scratch on the intricacies of life, at least some of the films. I mean, just see a typical Indian film: the sets are so expensive. I, for example, see no point in a hero starting to sing a duet alongwith the heroine and they keep on changing clothes after clothes and by the time the song is over, the actors have changed into three or four costumes! I mean it doesn't take a week to sing a song! Sometimes, you see a song starting in Bombay and ending up in Kashmir. I ask myself: do these people keep on singing, even while they are taking a flight from Bombay to Srinagar? Moreover, songs apart, Indian films are multi-million pound failure as far as the theme is concerned. They may make the minds of rickshawallas or college teenagers tick, but if they are to be seen in the true perspective of life, I think Indian films merely scratch on the theme only. I don't blame the film makers for this, this is what the Indian audiences want. Bearing in mind the mountain loads of rupees spent on Indian films and profits are a main consideration, I don't see why Indian film makers should not grease their palms liberally in the process as long as it lasts."

Surinder at work in the sound mixing studio in London.

Serious work afoot! Surinder behind the lens of a camera.

Surinder has already learnt how to handle film cameras. His picture appeared in the Barking Advertiser. He thinks that the best way to make films is to know how to handle cameras, write and interpret the scripts and above all how to direct the film. His photographic work has also appeared in Newham and Stratford Advertiser. Surinder thinks that he has a very great future in the rat race of film making world. He says he is ready for the pitfalls that engulf a lot of film makers but then, he said philosophically, "Every cloud has a silver lining" or, "If winter is here, can spring be far away?"

Surinder believes film making is an art and the success of any film depends on the way you handle it. Some of the best projects in films have gone bust and some of the projects which threatened to go bust have, on the contrary, becoming roaring successes – "it's all a gamble," Surinder insists. And with his stars in his favour, it looks Surinder is ready to take up this gamble.

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Joint Computer System For Air India & Indian Airlines

Air India and Indian Airlines passengers will witness a dramatic change in service when the new Sperry Univac 1100/22 Real Time Computer System goes into full operation by mid 1980.

For many years, both Air India and Indian Airlines have felt the need for an instant computerized reservations system – one that can immediately tell a passenger whether a seat is available, advise on routing, cheapest fare, most convenient connecting flights, confirm hotel bookings and register his requirements. Now finally such a system has been set up.

One of the most complex and advanced computer systems in India, it is financed and manned jointly by the two airlines, and has installed Air India's base, Bombay Airport. It is presently being prepared for a wide range of reservations, passenger check-in, engineering information, flight planning, crew scheduling and financial management. The entire computer system, with its related support facilities, occupies an area of over 150,000 sq. ft.

In addition to reservations on their own services, the system will be able to provide reservations on other airlines with whom Air India and Indian Airlines have free sale facilities, and when schedules are changed, the computer will automatically generate a message alerting the stations concerned.

At present over 20,000 telex messages pour into Bombay daily, and these messages are manually

The console from which 'operations control' monitors the work being done on the computer.

switched over to their various destinations – a job which can be taken over by the computer.

CREW SCHEDULING AND ENGINEERING

Scheduling of 450 operating crew and 2,000 cabin crew has been a perennial problem, and the use of the computer for this task will solve the problem. The computer will also greatly speed up the processing of engineering information – e. g. availability of particular components, their location etc.

FLIGHT PLANNING

The new computer will take over the flight planning for Air India. The complete performance date of the aircraft will be stored in the computer and, after the latest weather data obtained from the met office has been keyed into it, it will instantly come up with the appropriate route, height at which the aircraft should be flown, fuel to be uplifted etc.

The above are but some of the broad areas where application of computer teehnology is planned for the present. The most dramatic changes will undoubtedly be noticeable in reservations facilities as traffic staff anywhere on Air India's worldwide and Indian Airlines' domestic and regional network will be able to find out instantly the

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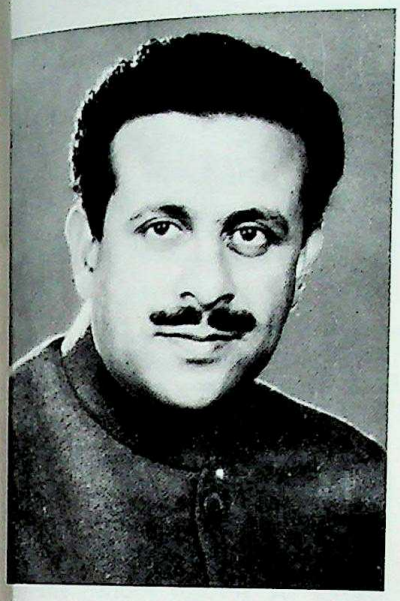
latest reservations positions on the flights of both carriers, as well as suitable connecting flights of other airlines from almost any point in the world. There are other areas, such as Cargo Handling for example, where such applications are planned in future.



Mohammad Shafi Qureshi, India's dynamic Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation.

OPENING PART OF ANDAMANS TO TOURISTS

The Government is considering to open part of the Andaman Islands in a way to foreign tourists.

According to official sources, the Ministry of Civil Aviation has already taken up the matter with the Home Ministry and that it was being processed keeping in view certain security constraints. The Indian Navy and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) are maintaining a few establishments in the islands.

However, under a new proposal, the Government might allow tourists to visit only a few islands, which include their four islands which are already open to foreign visitors.

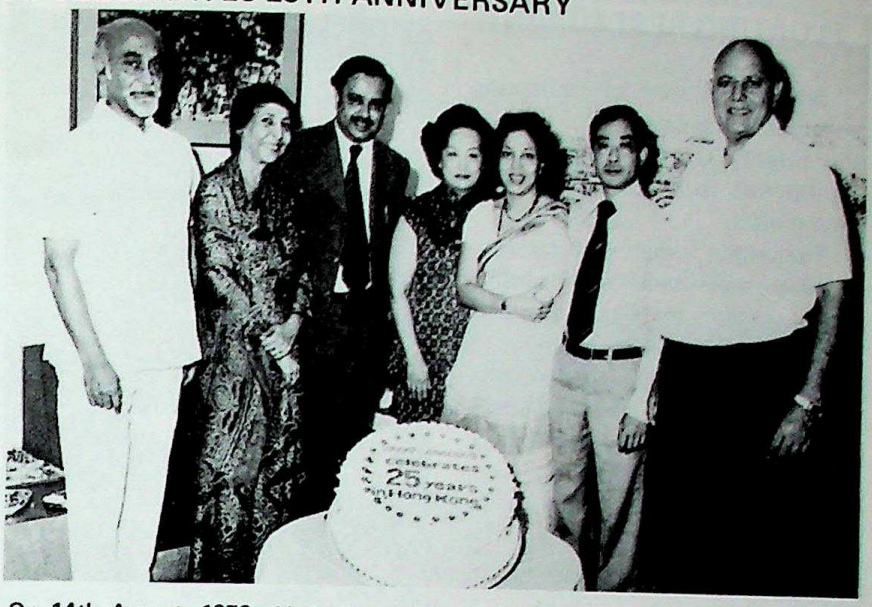
Sources said various tourists agencies as well as Air-India had indicated to the Ministry that at least 5,000 tourists could be ferried to the islands, earning substantial foreign exchange.

The tourism industy in the world had been looking for new areas to sell and the beaches of Andaman Islands could be a hit. Apart from good sands around the waters, the tourists could do scuba diving.

In fact, indications given by Air-India particularly emphasise the scuba diving aspect, mainly due to the growing interest shown in this sport by Japanese tourists. The airline is already managing a 35-room hotel in Port Blair with plans to expand its capacity gradually.

The tourists season for the islands starts from October and ends by February because of the good weather there.

AI CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY



On 14th August, 1979, Air India celebrated its 25th anniversary of operations to Hong Kong, and celebrating the silver anniversary of the Hong Kong office were three members of the staff, who have been with the airline here in the Colony since the office was first set up way back in 1954. Mrs. Annie Leung (Senior Secretary), Mr. C P. Yip (Typist/Clerk) and Mr. Kartar Singh (Chauffeur).
Pictured at the staff celebration, after the presentation of the 25 year service awards are l-r Mr. & Mrs. Balendu Shah, Mr. A. Vaish, Mrs. Annie Leung, Mrs. Vaish, Mr. C.P. Yip and Mr. Kartar Singh.

SERVICE AWARD

Mrs. Annie Leung, Mr. C.P. Yip and Mr. Kartar Singh are pictured above receiving their 25 year service awards from their manager, Mr. Ashok Vaish (extreme left).

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CITY TO HAVE FLOATING RESTAURANT

Bombay will soon have a floating restaurant, the first of its kind in the country. It will be fully air-conditioned and will arrange harbour cruises.

The motor launch with catering facilities will have an exclusive lounge where meeting and conferences can be held.

The scheme has been worked out by the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC) and has been received with considerable enthusiasm by tour operators and travel agents who have been apprised of the preliminary plans.

The launch, which will be specially built with the help of maritime consultants, is expected to have catering facilities for 150 passengers. The restaurant will have a dining hall and an open space for passengers to view the waterscape.

Below this deck will be a plush lounge with a bar. It can be hired by organisation or groups. The lounge is planned to have a separate pantry.

The boat could be hired any time it is operating a service. The choices include: (a) breakfast-conducted tours of Elephanta or luncheon sailings, (b) cruise on which there will early dinner to suit the habits of foreign tourists supper cruises involving around 10 or 11 p.m.

MAURYA-SHERATON: CONFERENCE VENUE

A 4-day conference on "The Perspective on Indo-U.S. Cooperation" was held at Maurya-Sheraton, super 5-star hotel of New Delhi. Photograph shows Mr. Ram Capoor, Mr. D.G. Lanjewar, the former Vice-President of India, Mr. Jatti, who presided over the inauguration, and Mr. Robert S. Goheen, the Ambassador.

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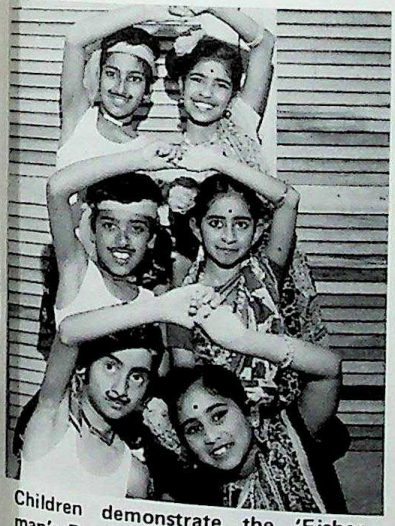
Indians Abroad

AUSTRALIA

INDIAN INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS

To celebrate the 32nd anniversary of India's independence, a cultural evening was held in Canberra by the India-Australia Association. About 150 people were at the function which comprised 11 song and dance items including folk dances and a fisherman's dance executed beautifully by six children.

TUNNEL OF LOVE



Children demonstrate the 'Fisherman's Dance' from South India at a cultural evening held by the India-Australia Association of Canberra to celebrate the country's independence day. They are, from left, top row, Joseph Jayaraj, 12, of the Canberra suburb of Kambah; Sudha Visvanathan, 10, of Fisher; middle row, Lawrence Jayaraj, 11 of Kambah, Jaya Rajagopal, 11, of Garran; bottom row, Aruna Sampath, 8, of Latham, and Mani Rajagopal, 9, of Garran.

–Photo: The Canberra Times

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

The Indian High Commissioner to Australia, Mr. Jagdish Ajmani, left, his wife, Sharda, and the Mayor of New Delhi, Mr. Rajendra Gupta, and his wife at a dinner party hosted for the visitors by Mr. and Mrs. Ajmani.

– Picture: The Canberra Times

Canberra's representative in Federal Parliament, Senator John Knight, was guest speaker and among the guests were the Acting Indian High Commissioner, Mr. S. K. Mathur and his wife, Saroj.

The cultural program ended on an appetising note with a delicious Indian supper.

DISTINGUISHED INDIANS VISIT AUSTRALIA

Over the past few months, Australia has seen the arrival of two very distinguished Indians namely, the Mayor of New Delhi, Mr. Rajendra Kumar Gupta, and the Indian Chief of Army Staff, General Om Malhotra.

Both men during their brief stay in this country took time out to visit the major state capitals and together with meeting their counterparts, they also were introduced to the many Indians now residing in Australian cities. Sightseeing was also on the agenda.

While in Canberra, the national capital, Mr. Gupta's interest was aroused by the layout of cycle paths and the Natural Disasters Organisation.

"I was very enamoured of the way in which cycle paths are laid out in and around Canberra and the operations of the disasters organisation", Mr. Gupta said.

"I have had talks with the relative representatives with a view to seeing some similar implementation back home", he said enthusiasticly.

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SMILE . . . . CLICK!

Mr. Vinod Duggal, of Sydney, left, Director of the Tea Board of India, with Mrs. Rita Singh, also of Sydney, at the home of the Indian High Commissioner, Mr. Jagdish Ajmani, for a reception he hosted in honour of the visiting Chief of the Indian Army Staff, General Om Malhotra. Mrs. Singh is the wife of the Indian Consul-General in Sydney, Mr. V.P. Singh.

– Picture: The Canberra Times

ISN'T SHE LOVELY!

Colonel Shyam Kapoor, left the Military, Naval and Air Adviser with the Indian High Commission in Canberra is pictured with the Indian Chief of Army Staff, General Om Malhotra, Mrs. Rita Singh, of Sydney, wife of the Indian Consul-General, Mr. V.P. Singh, and the Indian High Commissioner Mr. Jagdish Ajmani at a reception in honour of General Malhotra.

– Picture: The Canberra Times

I had the opportunity of meeting Mr. Gupta and his charming wife at an intimate dinner party hosted for them by the Indian High Commissioner, Mr. Jagdish Ajmani, and his wife, Sharda.

Mr. Gupta is in his third consecutive term as Mayor of New Delhi. He was President of the New Delhi District Jana Sangh (1973-74) and Vice-President of South Delhi District Jana Sangh (1974-75).

Mr. Gupta is associated with a number of leading organisations and institutions. He is the General Secretary of Bal Bharti Public School, Poorvi Marg, New Delhi. He has been president of Lion's Club, Greater Kailash (1970) and Zonal Chairman, Lions International.

By profession, he is an engineer turned industrialist. He is the General Manager of Rampur Engineering Co. Ltd., and Director of Delhi Iron Syndicate, Hans Raj Gupta and Co. Ltd., and various other establishments. He also holds business interests in a number of leading industrial and commercial concerns.

He is a great lover of sports. He represented his school in football, athletics, swimming and water polo. He was also in the National Cadet Corps for three years.

Mr. Gupta was elected as Alderman of the Corporation in the first meeting of the Councillors on June 23, 1977.

General Malhotra was introduced to a cross section of the Canberra community at a reception hosted by the Indian High Commissioner, Mr. Ajmani.

During his week-long stay, General Malhotra visited major Army establishments in the Australian states of New South Wales, Victoria and had talks with his Australian counterparts and the Minister for Defence, Mr. Jim Killen. His visit to the country was a reciprocal one at the country was the Chief of the General Staff, Lieutenant-General D.B. Dunstan, who went to India last year.

– Rama Gaind

USSR

INDIA PARTICIPATES IN SECOND MOSCOW BOOK FAIR

The Second International Book Fair opened in Moscow on September 4. About 2,000 leading publishers from 70 countries as well as a number of international organisations are participating in the Moscow Fair. India is represented at the Fair by about 90 firms. This is a far greater number than in the First Fair held in Moscow in 1977.

Speaking on Indo-Soviet cooperation in the field of literature, the Soviet spokesman said that over 1,000 titles by Indian authors have so far been published in the USSR whose total curculation exceeds 30 million copies. Books by Soviet authors are also widely published in India.

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KENYA

GENEROUS DONATION

India's scientific and technical aid was appreciated by the Principal of Kenya Polytechnic in Nairobi when he accepted 120 scientific and technical books worth Rs. 12,000. Mr. J.D. Mambo, Kenya Polytechnic Principal, thanked the Government and people of India for the generous book donation and recalled that four years ago a similar donation of thirty volumes was also made.

He noted that twelve Indian technical teachers were working at this institutions and six more from India were expected to join them in the near future.

Presenting the books the Indian High Commissioner to Kenya, Mr. Aditya Haksar, said several hundred Kenyan students were presently studying in India in disciplines ranging from agriculture and commerce to engineering and medicine. The friendly relations between India and Kenya were reflected in many sided cooperation in economic technical and educational fields, he added.

JOINT ASSAULT

India and Kenya have launched joint attack on a primary pest of sorghum called 'shootfly'. "Operation shootfly" is a joint assault between India's International Crop Research Institute for Semiarid Tropics (ICRISAT) and Kenyan International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE). Kenya scientist, Hohn Olela has recently arrived at International Crop Research Institute for Semiarid Tropics Hyderabad to study how shootfly resistant strains of sorghum can be developed.

Indian scientist, Dr. Raina, has been working for past six months at Mbita, in Nyanza Province, about 400 kilometres from Nairobi on the shores of Lake Victoria to see how shootfly of this primary sorghum pest.

International Crop Research Institute Semiarid Tropics develops sorghum breeds resistant to shoot fly and International Centre Physiology and Ecology develops insecticide to kill the pest. The two pronged attack could have significant impact and provide major breakthrough for eliminating this pest for many Third World countries.

SPECIAL SERVICE

The Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) has launched special service between East Africa and Persian Gulf which observers believe will greatly help to promote Kenya's exports to rich Arab Oil States.

The introduction of this special monthly service stemmed from a careful study of Kenya's needs and expanding market for Kenya produce in the Gulf region. Speaking at a colourful inauguration ceremony aboard Shipping Corporation of India owned cargo vessel "State of Orissa" at Kilindin Port, Mombasa recently, the Indian High Commissioner to Kenya, Mr. A. H. Haksar commended Kenyas dynamic export drive.

He pledged that the Shipping Corporation of India would give full backing to Kenyan efforts to capture not only the Persian Gulf markets but other areas in which lines operates. Mr. Haksar said Shipping Corporation of India special service would provide a good outlet for exports from Eastern countries. He appealed to local shippers to utilise the service promote export trade. "State of Orissa" under command of Captain Hoshang Boatwala sailed from Mombasa with cargo of 2,000 tons of Kenyan coffee, paper reels and animal feed. The vessel also carried goods from Tanzania and Mozambique. Kenya's paper reels were in demand in Persian Gulf countries and Shipping Corporation of India service was looked upon as great boost to Birla sponsored Pan African Paper Mills. Mr. Haksar said the introduction of this special service was a credit to Kenya which had helped Shipping Corporation of India to expand its shipping service in East Africa.

KENYA INDIAN COPRODUCES FILM ON IDI AMIN

Kenya Indian Sharad Patel is coproducing a full length feature film: "The Rise and The Fall of Idi Amin" with British collaborators in Nairobi. A seventy person strong contingent has arrived in Nairobi to start shooting film. The Asian exodus, emotional scenes at railway station the brutal treatment by Amin's soldiers are some of the sequences in which thousands of local Indians will take part as extras.

Nairobi's Indian bazaar was open for business on a Sunday with scores of Indian owned shops open for shooting scenes of panic after Amin's edict of expulsion. Sharad Patel will coproduce and direct this film which will end its shooting in November and will be released on world circuits early next year.

Among the real life stunts will be the blowing up of two Mercedes Benz limousines and a Citreon super limousine in which Amin narrowly escaped death once.

Local actors and actoresses of Indian and Kenyan origin will team up with 14 stars from Europe for this £ 1 million project. Thirty five old Kenyan, Mr. Joseph Olita, has an uncanny resemblance to Idi Amin.

In fact, many Nairobities have been mistaking him for the deposed

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dictator when he has spotted in Nairobi. Denis Hills, who was rescued by then former Foreign Secretary James Callaghan, is in Nairobi to play realife role when he faced execution in Amin's prison.

FIRST EVER ROMAN CATHOLIC BECOMES HINDU

Mr. Eddie Pereira a Roman Catholic since he was born 63 years ago, has been converted to Arya Samaj sect of Hinduism in Nairobi. He claims this is the first time a Goan has left the Catholic faith to become a Hindu. The conversion was celebrated at Mahinder Pal Hall. Pereira was given a new name of Sadashiva and initated with the sacred thread.

"I was accepted as a Hindu with showers of flower petals from the congegation", said Sadashiva. "The Chairman of Religious Committee of Arya Samaj Nairobi, Mr. C.P. Gupta, made a speech accepting me as kith and kin."' Sadashiva told the congregation that he had found all other religious foreign in their conduct and philosophy. They do not match with my Aryan Vedic Culture, he said.

MOTHER TERESA IN NAIROBI

India's famous social welfare worker, Mother Teresa, praised India for allowing harmonious working of different faiths to help the poor of India in an interview in Nairobi.

Mother Teresa visited Kenya at the invitation of Cardinal Maurice Otunga of Kenya to observe the work of Missionaries of Charity recently established in Nairobi. Indian citizen Mother Teresa said "We're loved and appreciated by the Indian government which for example has given us free passes on railways".

Talking about the problem of untouchables Mother Teresa said it was dying down. "But there are untouchables in the world everywhere in which there are divisions between the rich and the poor which can create as much hurt but is differently dressed", she said.

She refused to compare the suffering of one part of the world with that of another.

"I do not, for example, compare suffering in cities like Bombay and Culcatta – you cannot."

She cited two kinds of suffering, mental and physical and noted many rich people who are spiritually starved.

Four nuns of this congregation arrived here recently to start work in Nairobi intending to move into some of the poorest localities. "We choose to be the poor. This is vocation and we must know that is poverty", said Mother Teresa.

– Kul Bhushan

THAILAND

YOU LIGHT UP MY LIFE

The Laxmi room of the Narai Hotel was the scene of a colourful event when the wedding celebrations of newly weds Aroon Gupta, son of Mr. L.N. Gupta of Thai Native Gems and Lata Gupta, daughter of Mr. M. L. Gupta took place. Over 300 well wishers turned up to bless the couple. Picture shows Mr. Aroon Gupta and the bride Lata Gupta during the celebration.

BON VOYAGE

A farwell party was held to bid bon voyage to Mr. A. J. Selakumar, General Manager of Bharat Overseas Bank and to introduce incoming Chief Manager Mr. C. Rajgopalan at the Royal Sports Club. Some 250 guests attended the occasion to meet the new Manager and extend their best wishes to outgoing Mr. Selakumar and his charming wife. Mr. Selakumar's new posting as General Manager at Madras office has greatly cheered the Bank's customers and associates in Bangkok. Photographed from left: Mr. Selakumar, Mr. Rajgopalan and Mr. Ishardas Uttamchandani discussing a point.

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SAVING A LIFE

Management of the Hindu Samaj held a blood donation ceremony to mark the auspicious birth anniversary of H.M. Queen Sirikit of Thailand at the premises of the Samaj. Convenor of the Jan Kalayan Vibhag Mr. T. R. Gambhir and Mr. Rajpal Bhatiya inspired 62 persons including 23 women to participate in the programme. The donation was made to the Red Cross Society of Thailand of which H.H. the Queen is President also. In the photo Mr. Rajpal Bhatiya is seen in centre alongwith Mr. Gambhir and Mr. K. L. Matta, Secretary of the Hindu Samaj.

THE HINDU SAMAJ

The Hindu Samaj, the most leading organization in town celebrated Janmashtami festival, the birth anniversary of Lord Krishna with great preparation and enthusiasm. Some 600 people from various walks of life attended the celebrations till midnight. Highlights of the event were kirtan, bhajans, songs and speeches by prominent personalities. A talented lady group presented three hits of bhajans by Meera and Surdas respectively.

The Indian Ambassador Mr. K.L. Dalal also graced the occasion and gave an impressive speech depicting the bright aspect of Lord Krishna's life. Among the speakers were Mr. Darshan Singh, Mr. Bajaj, Mr. K.L. Matta and Mr. Roshan Lal Quatra, President – Hindu Samaj.

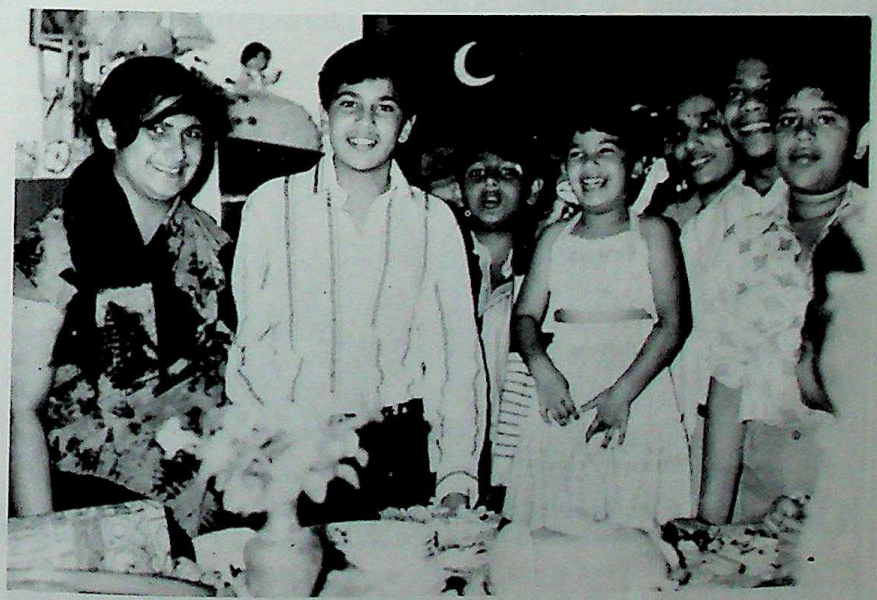
The Hindu Samaj from the day of its existence started to run a public school named Bharat Vidyalaya, which is still in good shape and now even stronger than before. It has the strength of 700 students with more than 20 trained teachers. In 1940 another institution Thai Bharat Cultural Lodge founded by Swami Satyanand Puri, a celebrated Prof. of Sanskrit from Shanti Niketan, came under the patronage of Hindu Samaj. Thai Bharat Cultural Lodge is a combined body of Hindu, Sikh, Muslim and Thai. Under the patronage of the Samaj for the last 39 years Lodge was working in the same premises of Hindu Samaj and Vidyalaya. For the last one year there is a comment to make the Lodge a separate entity. At present the separation fever is high, seeing the political and other awakening in the societies in general, in all countries.

Hindu Samaj has expressed its sincere intention to continue its aid and assistance to the Lodge as usual in all respect. After the founder member Late Pandit Raghunath Sharma, Lodge is being run under the care of Mr. H.L. Sachdev with Thai President and with the kind cooperation of 6 Thai members, excluding Indians.

First President of the Lodge was H.R.H. Prince Wan Vaidyakorn, an elderly statesman of Thailand, succeeded by Chaokhun Phaya Anuman Rajdhon. Currently Dr. O. Ketusing, also a Thai, is the President.

RHODESIA

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Sunil and Lavina Hassamal, of Bulawayo, Rhodesia recently celebrated their birthdays together. Here they are seen in a gay mood pictured with family members and invited guests.

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NEW ZEALAND

NEWS FROM AUCKLAND

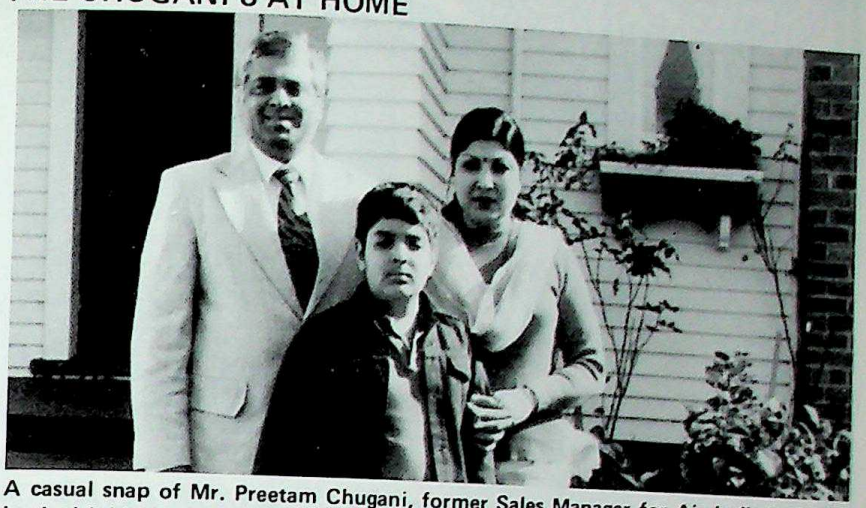
Mr. Preetam Chugani who was the Air India Sales Manager for New Zealand from September 1977 till June 1979, left Auckland recently to take up a new posting in Lusaka, Zambia and also includes neighbouring Malawi. Mr. Chugani was the first and only Sindhi to come to New Zealand, as there are no Sindhis in this small and very remote country. While he was in Auckland, he built up excellent relationships with the local Indian population and also increased passenger traffic for Air India from New Zealand.

Mr. C. Fernandez who assumed charge as Sales Manager for Air India in New Zealand is from South India, his last posting was Cochin, Kerala, South India. He speaks Tamil, Malialam and Konkanese, which are not known or even heard of in New Zealand. Mr. Fernandez is accompanied by his wife and two sons.

The 'Idd' festival was celebrated even in far away Auckland, New Zealand by the few Indian Muslims and Fijian Muslims who carry on the tradition, just as it is in India and elsewhere, with 'Open House' and Mr. Mahmood Bhikoo and his wife, Fatima had guests throughout the day on August 24th, 1979. I might add that Mrs. Bhikoo with assistance from others served delicious tasting meals, which included biryani, samosas, suji halva, chicken curry, etc. Guests came and went and the general atmosphere became Eastern, as Hindi, Urdu, Gujerati, and English was spoken by those who attended the celebration.

— Osbourne St. Martin

THE CHUGANI'S AT HOME



A casual snap of Mr. Preetam Chugani, former Sales Manager for Air India in Auckland with his charming wife and son Sanjeev pictured at their residence.

NEW SALES MANAGER

Mr. C. Fernandez, the new Sales Manager for Air India in New Zealand.

HAPPY GROUP

A happy group of Muslims on the occasion of the Idd Festival. Pictured at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Mahmood Bhikoo who are on the far left of the picture, in the middle are Mr. & Mrs. Hassan — both Australians who have been converted to Islam or now Moslems; to the right is Mr. Dodkin — an Englishman also a convert to Islam and his Pakistani wife Resha with their son.

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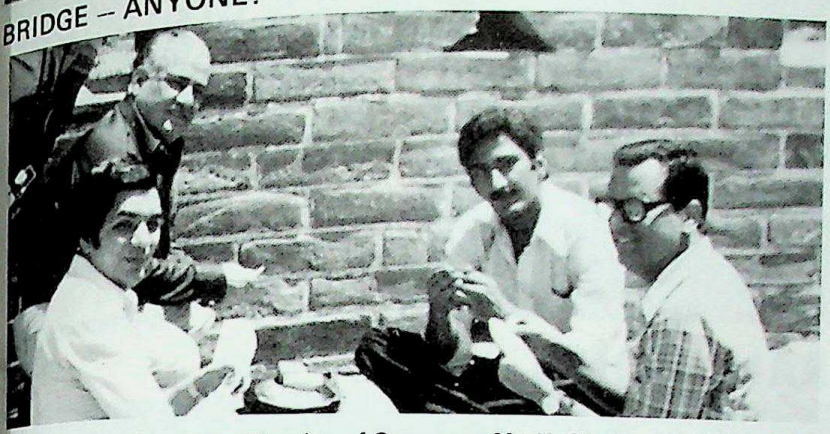
BRIDGE – ANYONE?

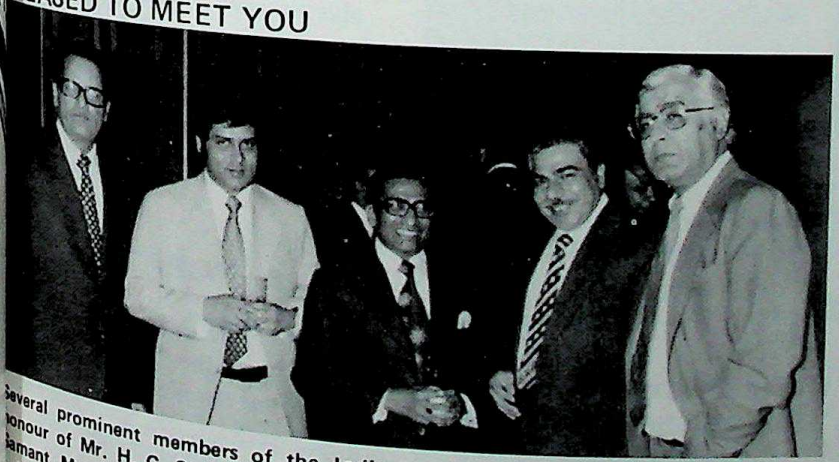


The Chairman of the Indian Chamber of Commerce Mr. K. Sital recently led a delegation to China. The tour included Canton, Shanghai and Peking and was a great success. Among the places of interest visited by the members of the delegation was the Great Wall of China. Some members even found time to play bridge on the Great Wall. Seen from left are: Mr. Gopal Nihalani , Mr. Murli Chulani, Mr. Prabhu Chulani and Mr. K. L. Samant. The stunned spectator is Mr. S. A. Ram, Secretary – Indian Chamber of Commerce.

BANK WELCOME

Mr. H. C. Sarkar is pictured with all officers and internal auditors of Hongkong and Kowloon branches.

PLEASED TO MEET YOU



Several prominent members of the Indian community attended the reception in honour of Mr. H. C. Sarkar. Pictured at the occasion are seen from left: Mr. K. L. Samant, Manager – Bank of India, Mr. Ashok Hemnani, Mr. H. C. Sarkar, Chairman – Bank of India, Mr. Arjan Melwani and Mr. Vashi Melwani.

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

Mr. Ashok, son of Dr. L. U. Kirpalani was recently married to Premila, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Dhalamal D. Daryanani. Seen above is the happy couple.

ANAND SHANKAR

The GOI Department of Tourism and Air India, with the assistance of the India Tourism Development Corporation, recently organized a multi-media artistic presentation, combining slides, film strips, music and dance, at the HK Arts Centre.

An appreciative audience of around 400 invitees from the local travel and tourism industry were given a colourful, lively and interesting performance of "modern and experimental Indian dance" by Ananda and Tanusree Shankar and their group of young dancers.

According to Ananda Shankar, who comes from a very well known musical family being the nephew of the world famous sitar maestro Ravi Shankar, and the son of equally famous dancer, the late Uiay Shankar, the one sure way for a nation to preserve its classical heritage in dance or music is to permit artistic freedom, so that new

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styles can develope. "Our performance is not Western", states Ananda, "but one which has been created through an understanding of Western tastes". This was borne out by the fact that though a few were disappointed at not getting the traditional classical styles, the majority voted the show one of the best they had seen. Everyone enjoyed the PATA '78 show of beautiful slides and film strips, and these presentations must surely do much in promoting India as a tourist destination.

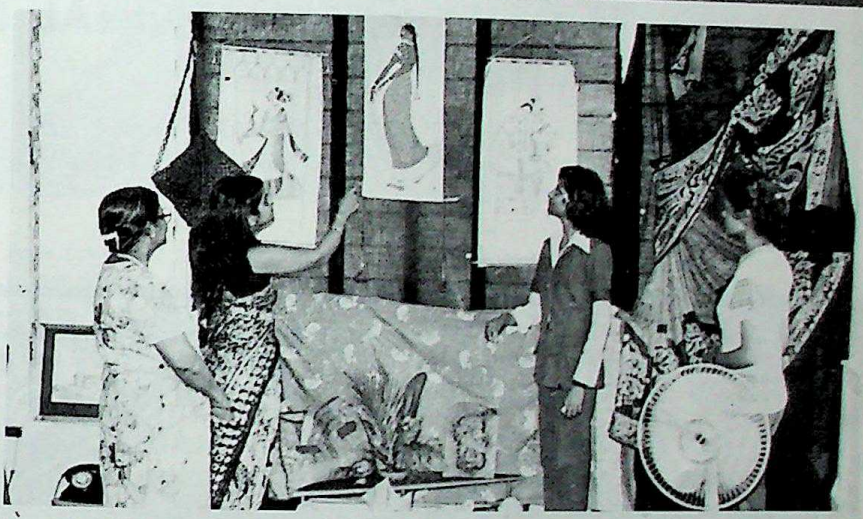
GUYANA

TALENT DISPLAYED

Mrs. Nividita Patnaik, an Indian National recently held an exhibition of paintings, handicraft and photography assimilating Indian and Guyanese culture and Indian history at her Queenstown home recently before bidding goodbye and leaving for India.

The exhibition attracted several people from Guyanese and Indian community and from all reports it was a huge success.

Mrs. Patnaik's photography and art in painting and handicraft portrayed her rich talent in this field. Her work ranged from sketches of Mahatma Gandhi and festivals of India, to oil painting of simple Guyanese and country side. Other paintings included those of landscapes, Indian musical instruments, and the Manipury dancer. She displayed sari designs, work in batik, embroidery macrame and pottery.

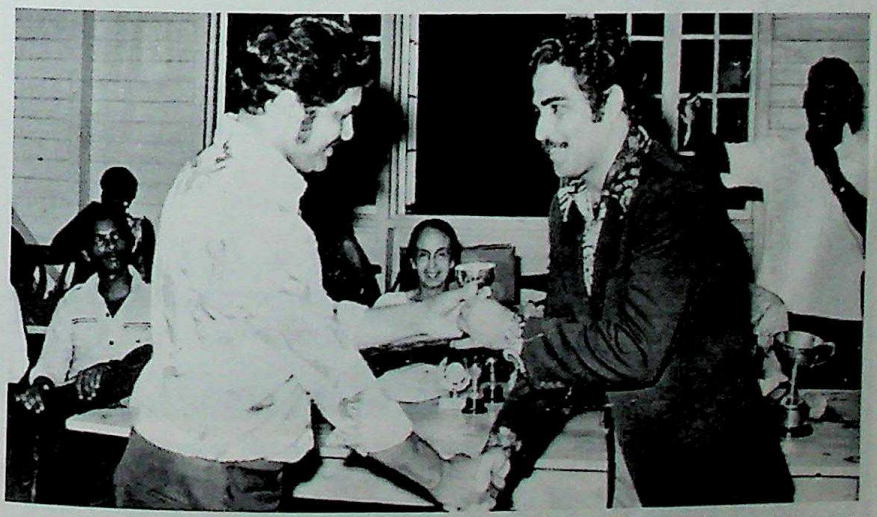


Mrs. Patnaik is seen explaining some of her exquisite creations.

FOND FAREWELL

Pandit Durgalal, a most likeable personality and an extremely popular dance teacher at the Indian Cultural Centre left recently with his wife and daughter for India. Shri Durgalal, during his stay in Guyana endeared himself to

D.A. THANIS CRICKET COMPETITION FINAL



Mr. Dayal P. Samtani, Manager of D.A. Thani & Son prominent Textile and General Merchants of Guyana, is seen at right handing over one of the many cups given away for their Cricket Competition in Georgetown recently.

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Pandit Durgalal in one of his stunning poses.

everyone, and indeed all Guyanese people. Whilst in Guyana he taught many students including Afro Guyanese the great art of Indian Kathakali, Bharat Natyam and other styles of dancing, and he himself also performed in the presence of many celebrities and important people and on many National occasions of Guyana. Shri Durgalal has had a most brilliant and colourful career before he came to Guyana, having taken part in Indian films as well as performing before celebrities and royalties abroad and in India. All Guyanese and specially Indian nationals will miss his cheerful presence. Here is wishing Shri Durgalal and his lovely family best of luck and a very bright future.

SHRI PUSHKAR JOHARI LEAVES

The High Commissioner of India Shri Pushkar Johari and Mrs. Johari left Guyana with their 2 children recently after a most successful term of office.

During his period of office Mr. Johari had endeared himself to all sections of the Guyanese community in general and all Indian nationals in particular. A perfect gentleman in every respect, he always showed keen sense of interest in his onerous duties. A very fine singer himself Mr. Johari has great knowledge of music and indeed surprised many of his friends and well wishers when they heard him sing at a get together. Mr. Johari leaves behind many friends and well wishers who sincerely wish him lots of luck, good health and a bright future in years to come.

– D. A. Thani

INDONESIA

IDD MUBARAK

As a matter of tradition, the students and teachers of the Gandhi Memorial International School pay a visit to Indonesian leaders every year on the occasion of "Idd Fitri", to extend their best wishes and to say 'Minal Aidin Wal Faizin' – forgive and forget. This year, too, they maintained the tradition.
They are seen here posing together with the Vice President of Indonesia, H.E. Dr. Adam Malik and Madam Mabik.

GOOD SAMARITANS

In the holy Moslem fasting month of Ramadhan, blood supply at the Blood Bank here usually runs short. To help in boosting the blood supply, Sri Sathya Sai Centre together with the Gandhi Memorial International School has for some years been organising blood donation campaign. Their twelfth blood donation campaign was held in the month of Ramadhan during August 1979. In the photo, looking at the Indian blood donors are Mr. V. Ram right, Mr. L. Ramchand in the centre and Mr. Nari.

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COURSE OF WEDLOCK RUNS SMOOTHER NOW

The course of wedlock has been made smoother for many young Indians in Dubai. In the past it was a costly affair for a couple to be joined in matrimony.

The high cost of air tickets to India and back, clothes, entertainment and the multitude of formalities associated with marriage ceremonies in the East made marriages not only expensive but a near ordeal.

Now thanks to the Indian Association, all ceremonies and legal obligations can be performed in Dubai.

"We have simplified the process of both ceremonies and legal requirements," said the General Secretary of the Indian Association Mr. Sunder M. Mans.

A marriage officiated and endorsed by the Indian Assiciation is now accepted by the Dubai Immigration authorities, Mr. Mans said.

Three lucky couples who dispensed with the rigid formalities in the last ten days are Rattan Punwani and malati Khemani, Franklyn Vaz and Leena Pinto and Ravi Vasandari and Pamela Sieveira. More Indians can now enjoy this privilege.

The Indian Association, Mr. Mans pointed out, wanted Indians to be at home here and not cut themselves off from traditional ceremonies associated with marriage.

Life in Dubai for many Indians is like home. Here they find their own food, their own shops, their own community of friendship, learning and commerce and above all the opportunity to communicate in their own mother tongue.

But when it came to marriage it ceased to be home. They had to go to Muscat to get marriages officiated. That was before the Indian Consulate was established in Dubai.

The Consulate which undertook the responsibility, later entrusted it to the Indian Association.

The Association, Mr. Mans says, initiates action on the approval of the bride's parents. If they are in India the Association informs them either by telex or cable the decision of the girl in Debai to get married.

The Association then proceeds only if parents telex or cable a reply confirming their approval of the marriage. In the event of there being no reply the Association refrains from further action.

The Association also demands an affidacit from the groom that he is not already married.

Once these requirements are fulfilled the Association arranges the wedding day.

The marriage ceremony takes place, with all the religious and other rituals, be they Christian, Muslim or Hindu.

The Association then issues the marriage certificate with all the forms duly certified and signed.

Rattan Punwani and Malati Kheman

Ravi Vasandani and Pamela Sieveira

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The International Eatch Company hosted a dinner at Sheration, Dubai, on October 4 to felicitate Mr. Ittake, president of the Ricoh Watch Company Ltd., Japan. In the photo at left, Mr. Abdulla Shirawi is seen reading a welcome address on the occasion. In the photo at right are (from left): Mr. Mohan Valrani, Mr. V.N. Aswani, Mr. Abdullah Shirawi, Mr. Ittaka, Mr. Ebrahim Shirawi, Mr. V.N. Chainani and Mr. M. Chainani.

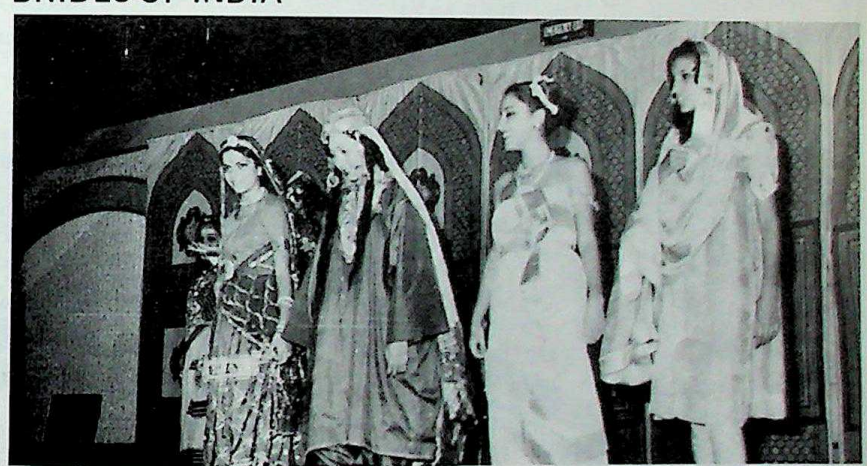
SYRIA

INDIAN FOOD FESTIVAL

An Indian Food Festival was organised at Sheraton Hotel, Damascus from 5th to 9th September, 1979. The Festival, apart from serving the choicest dishes of the Indian cuisine, included dance performances by the famous Kathak dancers, Shobna Narayan and Krishna Mohan, as well as a 'Brides of India' show. A team of Indian cooks as well as entertainers were specially flown from India alongwith Indian foodstuff and decoration material for the purpose. The Festival was organised by the Indian Tourism Development Corporation in cooperation with the Syrian Arab Airlines and Sheraton Hotel.

The Festival proved to be a grand success. It was the first time that the Syrian public had been exposed to the Indian food at such a lavish scale. The inauguration on the 5th September was attended by several Cabinet Ministers, Vice Ministers, heads of diplomatic missions and other VIPs.

BRIDES OF INDIA



Pictured at the festival are charming Rajasthani, Kashmiri, Keralite and Hyderabadi brides.

PACKED TO CAPACITY

A view of the audience enjoying the show.

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CANADA

RALLY SPILLS BLOOD

Balraj Singh Deol, a member of the East Indian Workers Association of Canada, is upset over the way the Canadian People's Defense Committee and the rightwing Nationalist Party of Canada, turned the anti-racism rally in Toronto October 14 into a bloody clash.

The peaceful rally organized by several ethnic groups in Toronto, including the East Indian Workers Association of Canada, became a free for all when the white extremist Nationalist Party members and the leftwing Indian group, Canadian People's Defense Committee, clashed at the anti-racism rally in Toronto's Nathan Philips square.

The rally was held in protest of the police-shooting of a Jamaican immigrant to death recently in Toronto. The organizers of the rally were unhappy over the way the two extremist groups started fighting with each other.

About 1,000 protesters representing various ethnic minorities had gathered to call for reforms of the Metro Police while some members of the racist Nationalist Party of Canada, one of them dressed as a gorilla clutching a banana, stood nearby shouting racist slogans at the ethnic groups.

"Self-defense is the only way," an Indian member of the Canadian People's Defense Committee declared adding, "no ethnic police squad is going to solve the racist problem in our society. People who want to reform the police are just trying to lead us down the garden path – what we need is actual opposition and confrontation."

At this point, the rednecks representing the Nationalist Party charged at the Indian group leading to the arrest of eight men. Several others sustained bruises.

Balraj Singh Deol described the members of the other Indian group, the Canadian People's Defense Committee, as "troublemakers who wanted to start a Canadian revolution."

After the brief scuffle which was reported on national television, speakers asked the crowd to support an end to racism, an independent police complaint bureau, and an overhaul of the Board of Police Commissioners.

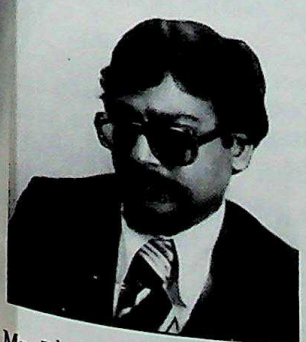
Philip Givens, Chairman of the Metro Police Commission, later said the minor incident was being blown out of proportion by the Canadian news media by making it a national event.

– Ron Santana

UNITED STATES

SHAMLAL'S PAPER DATE IN LOS ANGELES

Shamlal Puri, aged 28, was the youngest participant at the 22nd Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association held in Los Angeles USA in October. He was also the only Indian to participate in this major conference of media men from all over Africa.



Mr. Puri was invited to present a lecture on "The Influence of the Press in the Rural Areas of Africa". The conference's theme was "Africa and the Media: Changing Attitudes."

Mr. Puri's paper was very widely appreciated by the participants. His 30,000 words transcript would be published jointed by the African Studies Association of USA and a London based publishe, in a book form.

– Andrew Holc in London

NEW COMMITTEES

The Connecticut Valley Hindu Temple Society recently elected the following members to serve on their executive committee for the 1979-80 year: A.V. Srinivasan, president; Suman Sabnis, secretary; Harshad Desai, treasurer; Thakorbhai U. Patel, internal auditor; M. Sankaran, S. Ramanan, Radha Jalan, S. Radhakrishnan, R. Rangarajan, members. Swami Satchidananda of the Integral Yoga Institute in Pimfret, Connecticut, and R. Ranganathan, were elected to the board of trustees.

The new officer bearers for the New England Marathi Mandal for 1979-80 are: Rekha Chitre and Madhukar Pathak, presidents; Vishram Rege, treasurer; Jyoti Joshi, correspondence; Chandrakant Bagul, Nirmala Lele, Anil Mhatre, Meena Sane, Vijay Sathe, Rekha Tilak, area representatives.

The following board of directors were elected to serve the India Culture Center, Houston, Texas, for 1979-1980: K.L. Sindwani, chairman; Dulal Datta, vice chairman; Lalu Rupani, secretary; Susan Jacob, joint secretary; Pankaj Dalal, joint treasurer; Girish Pandya, treasurer; V. Alagarsamy, Gopal Krishan Elluru, Frank Halim, V.K. Jha, Anil Kumar, Chander Mehta, Uma Nagarsheth, directors-at-large.

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ARANGETRAM SUCCESSFUL

Miss Sheila Pitchumoni, a disciple of well-known dancer Padmini Ramachandran, held her arangetram at Paramus High School in New Jersey.

Pitchumoni, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. C.S. Pitchumoni of New Jersey, began her arangetram with a Thiruppukazh song followed by an invocation dance, Alarippu. She continued her performance with a Jathiswaram and Sabdam, two Bharat Natyam dances, and a Varnam. After the intermission, Pitchumoni followed with Padam and Thillana.

Sheila Pitchumoni

She was accompanied in the performance by Sarada Kumar and ...ji Ananthan on vocals, Ramnad ...ghavan on mridangam, Dr. ...nchacharam on flute, Ragana... ...ki Srinivasan on veena, and ...mathi Sundaram on violin.

Sheila Pitchumoni studied under ...dmini, former film and stage ...ncer who is now director of the ...dmini Institute of Fine Arts.

CANARY ISLAND

CRICKET IN THE CANARIES

Cricket: a game which has the following of millions in India and other Commonwealth countries, but unknown in Spain is finding roots in the Canary Islands. The game which started nearly a year ago has reached a stage where Inter-Island matches are able to take place.

The first match between the Selections of Las Palmas and Tenerife took place in Las Palmas on the 16th September, 1979. At stake was the 1st Orient Trophy and which was handsomely won by the Las Palmas X1 captained by Pishu Karani. The Tenerife X1 led by Ramesh Motwani put up a spirited performance, but was unable to stem the determined march to victory of the Las Palmas side. The game is expected to grow from strength to strength and Inter-Island games become a regular feature.

WEDDING BELLS

Satnam Sakhi Mandir Sheela married Gordhan son of Mr. & Mrs. Bulchand when E. Sabnani, proprietor of Hyderabad Sing Hotel, Bombay.

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Gleanings from Indian press

ACROBATS FROM CHINA COMING

For the first time since 1962, a 50-member Chinese acrobatic team will tour India November this year.

It will be among the 33 cultural delegations which will visit the country next year, Indian Council for Cultural Relations secretary I.N. Dixit said in New Delhi.

In exchange, 23 Indian delegations will perform abroad.

The ICCR, now in charge of implementing the Government's cultural exchange programmes, is planning to step up cultural exchanges with countries with old cultural ties and a tradition of the study of Indology.

ECULARISM IN PRACTICE

The former Chief Justice of India, r. M. Hidayatullah, is now India's ce-President.

Photo: PIB, New Delhi

FOUNDER – FATHER ....

The President, Mr. N. Sanjiva Reddy, laid the foundation stone of the Headquarters building of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India at Lodhi Estate Institutional Area, in New Delhi.

INDIA CAN MAKE WORLD'S STRONGEST EXPLOSIVE

Indian defence scientists have developed a method for the manufacture of the strongest explosive known, namely, HMX.

India thus joins a small group of nations, mostly western, who have the technical capability of producing the HMX "Her Majesty's Explosive".

As in case of all defence-use chemicals, in case of HMX too, every country keeps to itself as a closely guarded secret the know-how developed by it indigenously for HMX manufacture.

Researchers at the Explosive Research and Development Laboratory, at Pashan, near Pune, have succeeded in developing a sophisticated technology for its production.

It is being produced in a pilot plant on the campus of the ERDL a wing of the defence research and development organisation.

The ERDL has now undertaken the designing and setting up of a larger plan, which is expected to be operational in the near future. Once the plant is commissioned, it would meet the basic needs of the defence forces.

Scientists at the ERDL engaged in basic and applied research, took up the development of HMX technology just about two years ago.

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RISHI RAJ NARAIN

Mr. Raj Narain, Janata (S) chairman, joined issue with the former prime minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, on growing and shaving off one's beard of and on.

Mr. Desai had ridiculed Mr. Raj Narain at the Janata Party rally for growing and shaving off beard of and on.

"I have never grown beard till I was a member of Mr. Desai's Government," he said at his meeting with newsmen and added:

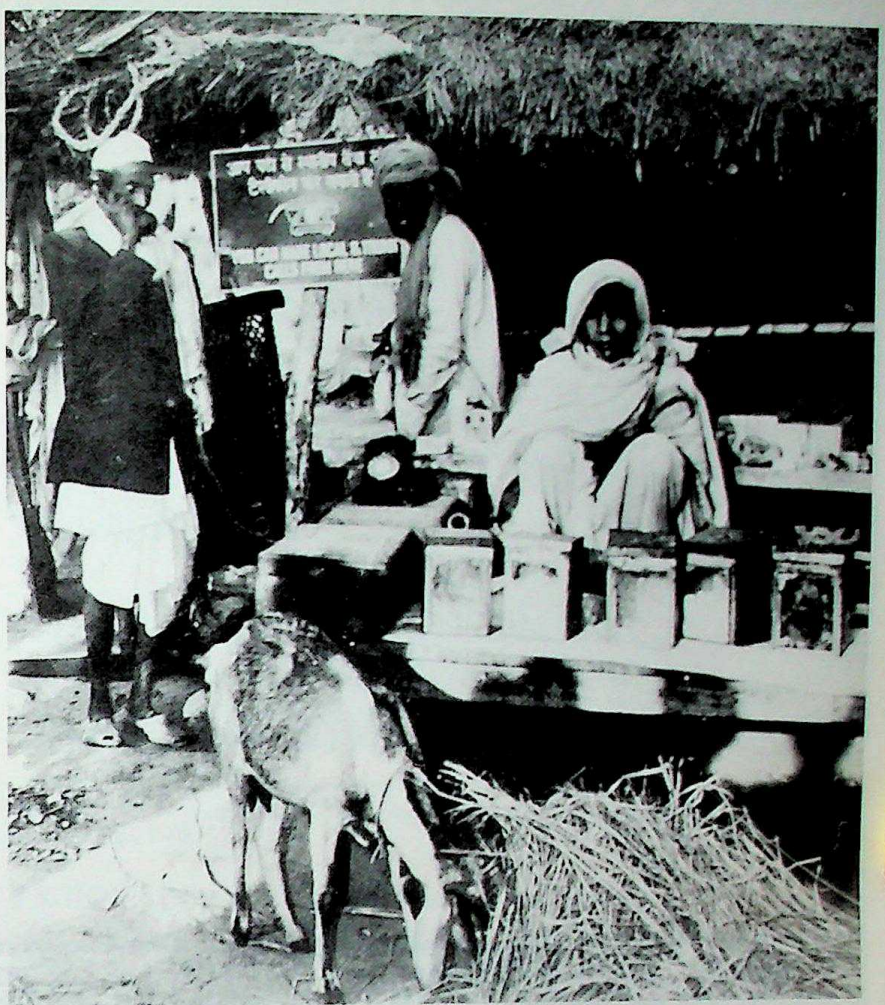
"Morarji Bhai doesn't understand the sanctity of growing beard."

Indian "rishis and munis" (saints) had a tradition of growing beard when they got angry and shaving it off when they cooled down. "I am following the traditions of great rishis," he said amidst laughter.

AKSHA BANDHAN

blind girl tying Rakhi to Shri Charan Singh, in New Delhi on August 8, 1979.

PHONES FOR THE FOLK



About 2,500 rural telephone public call offices were opened in 21 months (April 1977 – December 1978). This means opening of three rural PCOs a day. An ambitious 5-year programme to provide public call office and telegraph and other facilities to most of the villages having a population of 2,500 has been activated in 1978. By 1983, 15,000 such offices will be opened; as many as 10,000 of them will be in tribal and backward areas.

— Press Information Bureau

1.6 MILLION TO RECEIVE HEALTH EDUCATION

A major programme is being undertaken to involve the community in health and family welfare measures for implementing the national plan of action for the International Year of the Child (IYC), says an official release.

Under the programme, about 1.6 million persons will be imparted training to generate greater awareness of health and nutrition through 40,000 orientation camps. Of these, 8,000 camps will be exclusively for women.

A large number of children and pregnant and nursing mothers will be immunised all over the country.

The nutrition education programme will be linked with NAEP to involve the local community. Thirty-six mobile extension centres are providing education on nutrition.

SHAKING TOWERS LEANING

The famous Shaking Minarets in Ahmedabad have started leaning and the Archaeological Survey of India wants them to be closed to visitors for ever.

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A recent investigation by an ASI engineer has shown that the 521-year-old towers rising over a mosque are leaning as much as by +7 cm.

Dr. S. R Rau, Superintending Archaeologist (Western Region) said that there was no way of protecting this national mounment except by closing the towers to the visitors.

The towers built by a Muslim Archaeologist, Sidi Bashir, during the regime of Sultan Ahmed Shah, the founder of Ahmedabad, are so designed that if one is shaken, the vibration is carried to the other.

EXPO '79 OPENED

Mr. Sadiq Ali, Governor of Maharashtra inaugurated Lintas Expo 79 – an art exhibition – at the Jehangir art gallery.

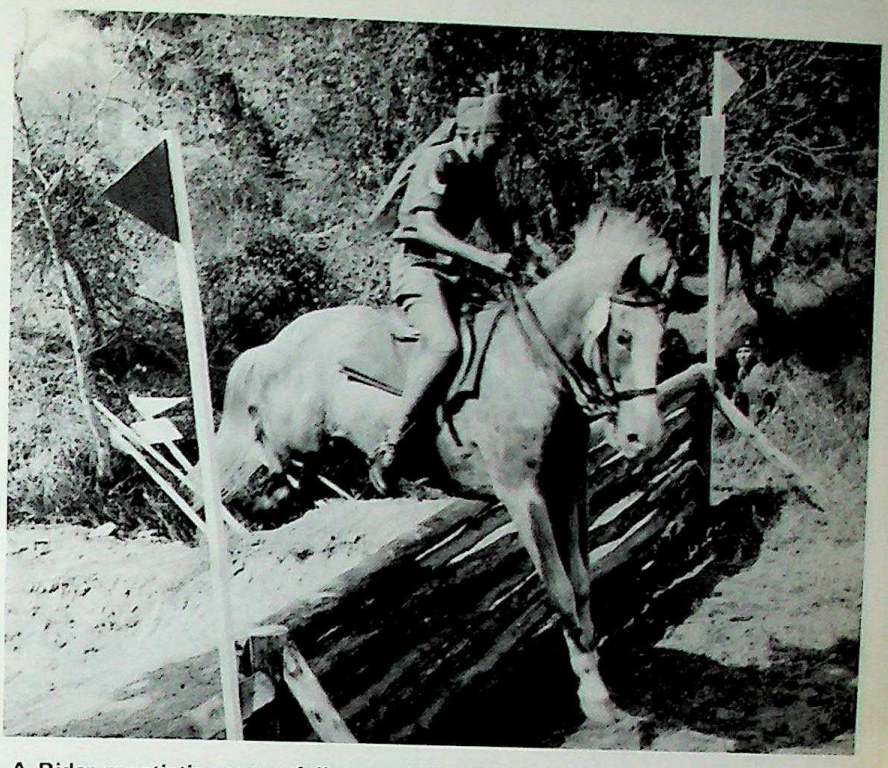
The exhibition includes art of all kinds – painting, sculpture, photography, wall hangings, films and audio visuals.

There is a special section on child art and another on Public Service Communications. This features campaigns for World, Wildlife Fund, India. Cancer Society Protein Foods Association and the Society for Clean cities.

The exhibition which has been organised by Lintas India, is an annual feature in the city.

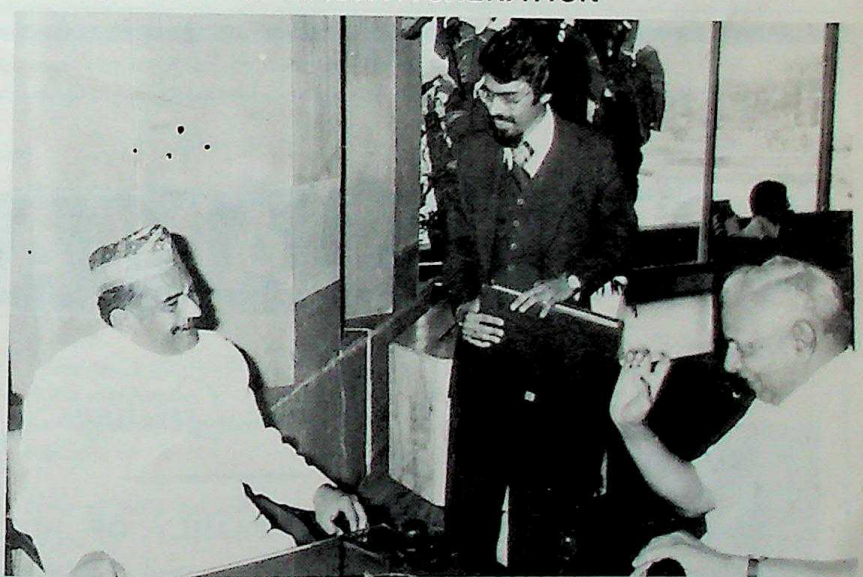
...e of the exhibits at Lintas Expo '79.

EQUESTRIAN



A Rider negotiating successfully one of the 27 obstacles during the Endurance Test part of the Three-day-event of the National Equestrian Championship – 1979 being held in New Delhi.

EX-ROYALTY AT MAURYA-SHERATON



At Maurya-Sheraton Hotel, New Delhi, is seen (left) the Maharaja of Benares, with the Lobby Manager, Mr. Vinod Mehra.

KARAN SINGH NOT TO DRAW SALARY

Dr. Karan Singh, Education Minister, has decided not to draw salary as Minister.

Nor will he stay in the official bungalow. He will continue to live in his own house.

Dr. Karan Singh did not draw salary for ten years when he was a Cabinet Minister between 1967 and 1977, and also when he held the posts of Sadr-i-Riyasat and Governor of Jammu and Kashmir.

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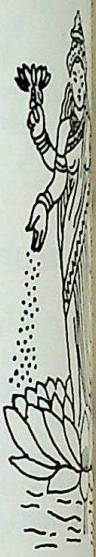

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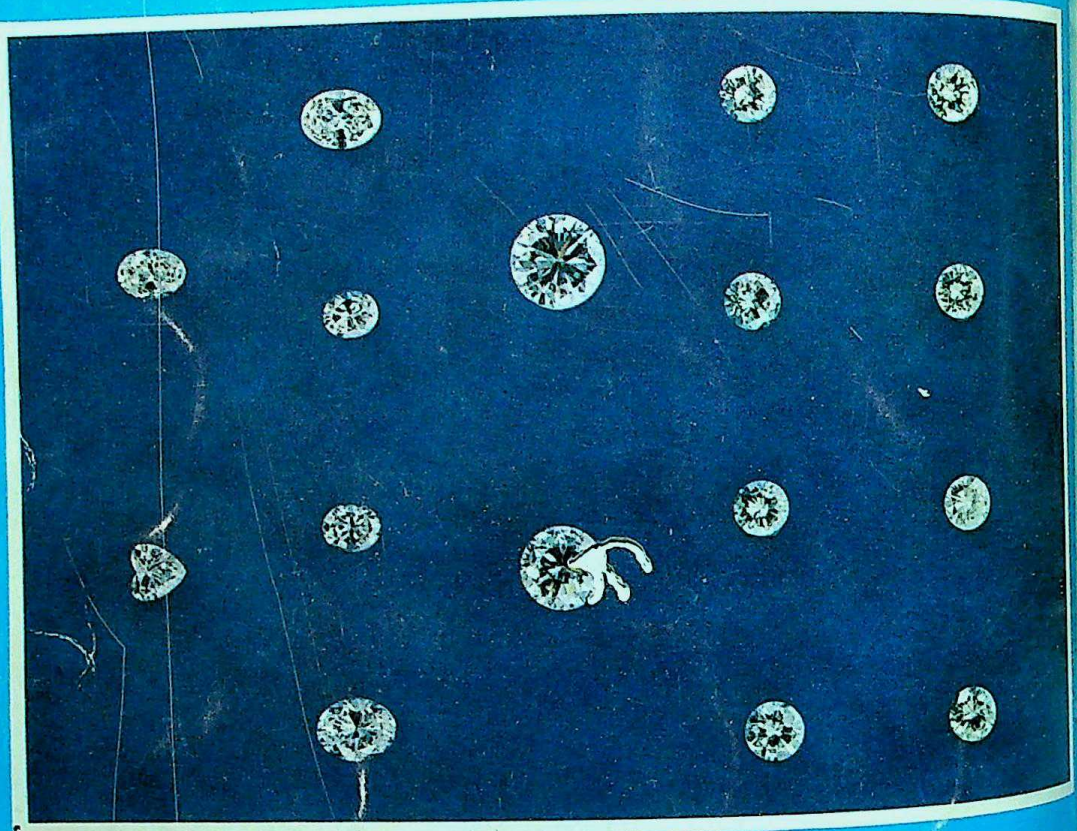

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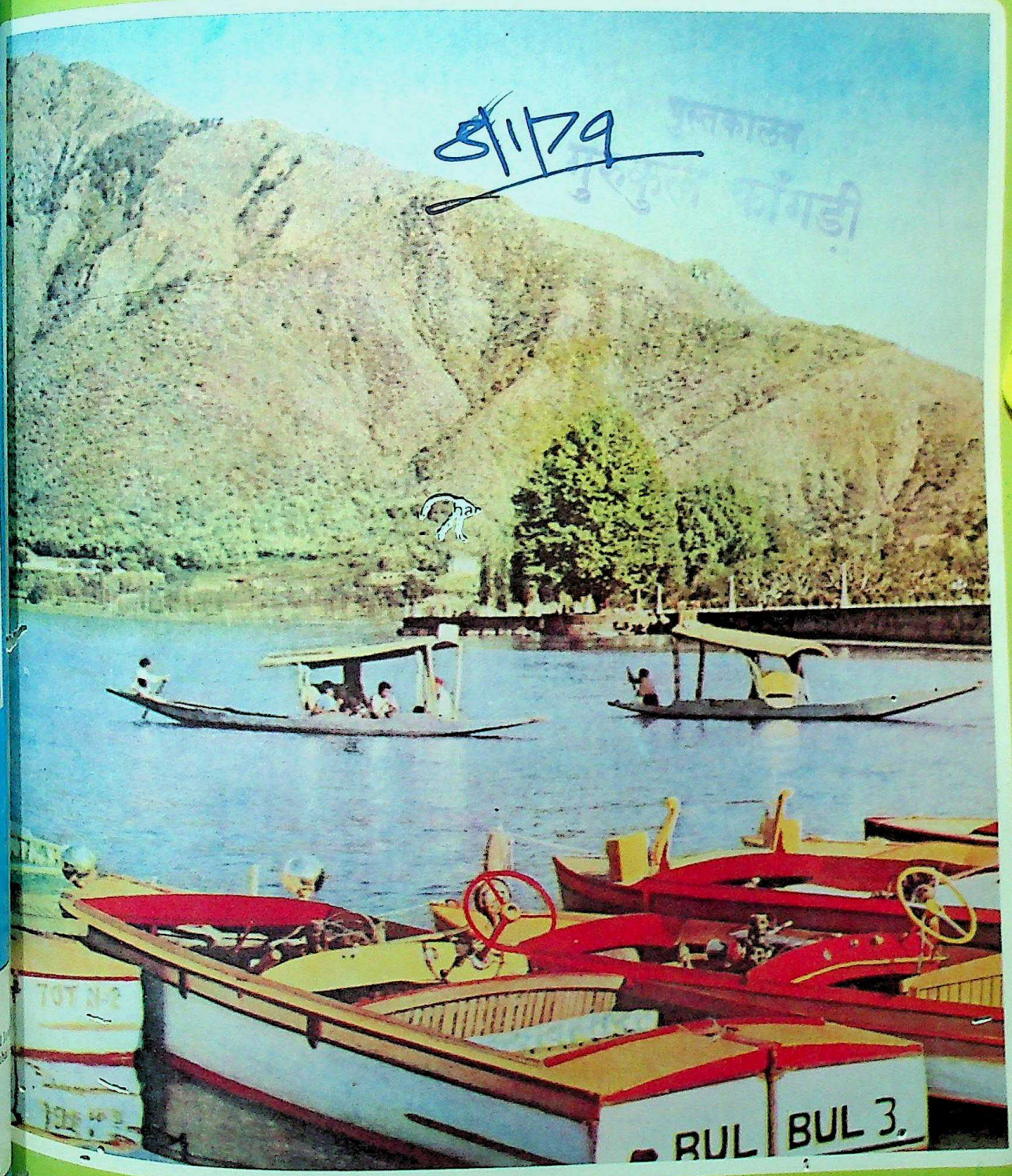

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THE VOICE OF 10 MILLION OVERSEAS INDIANS

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Rear View

K. N. VAID

OPERATION THUMBS UP

On August 8, 1978, Bombay witnessed a never-before scene when students captured the Bombay University in a well planned manner, quietly and with discipline. The code name was Operation Thumbs up.

Groups of students were waiting at four of the six entrances to the main building. Each group carried transistor radios. At 9-30 a.m. when the commercial programme of Bombay Radio gave time signal the groups started moving in. Take over of the University began.

Students shut all doors and windows and barricaded them. Other groups took over patrol duty outside the main building. Inside, switchboard operation was taken over by a girl student. The student vice chancellor occupied the well appointed and plush office of the University chief. He put through 4 telephone calls to the principals of 4 colleges. Message to each principal was similar, "This is V.C. calling. In view of the complaints from students and repeated irregularities, I must advise you to resign your office". Within 10 mts. the principals were on the streets. The student registrar called up the police. "Please do not enter the premises without permission of the V.C." Lorry loads of police waited outside the campus. Lunch packets were passed in for those-students and University employees alike. The new Executive Council of the University met at 2 p.m., press were called in two hours later and five important decisions were handed over: scrapping of tution fee hike, no tution fee for students from economically weaker families, firing of 4 principals, a committee to revamp examination system and promise to look into the grievances of employees. At 6.30 p.m. students' council met and decided to call off the seizure. At the same hour, the State Chief Minister announced the scrapping of fee hike. At 8.30 p.m. the student V.C. and his colleagues jumped out of the windows and disap- amongst Bombay crowds.

The students have been ag- against the unilateral decis- the authorities to increase fe- 33%. Their repeated meeting authorities resulted in usual ances but nothing happened led to the Operation Thumbs

This was the first incident kind in the 120 years old B- University. Bombaywalas surprised at the sudden pe and disciplined student act were the police and auth Everything passed off well. great lesson has been learnt. try out the patience of the and unilateralism is no longer of the day.

RESILIENCE UNMATCHE

India is anachronism. It was said by a cynical American journalist. But how right it is. Indian politicians are busy in personal and party feuds. Newspapers and media are busy in reporting or planting stories. Nothing else seems to happen in the country. But a lot is happening. Food production has been the highest ever. Price of sugar, wheat and rice has fallen and public distribution system of essentials through fair price shops is no longer essential. Industrial production has risen by 8%-highest in recent times. After labour unrest last year, industrial peace is generally prevalent all over India. Trade is bouncing with little respect to the government rules and regulations. Property values have risen. Foreign exchange position is good. All foreign aid debts and in thereon as due have been p time.

All these developments make front page headlines. picks up sensational news media is as unrepresentative common man as the elite th the country. Quite unmin Indian has a resilience to under all circumstances. Ra their courts changed at De nothing changed for the ma village. He was on his own is. He is cynical of the pro Delhi and continues to strug move on his own. It is this re that has shown results even Let Morarji Desai and Charan fight. Let Mrs. Gandhi say whatever she wants. The

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the worker, the trader have learnt to live and survive on their own. And they are doing exactly that. That is what made India survive over the centuries. They are the strength of the country.

SONS AND FATHERS

Sins of fathers, they say, are visited on their sons. It is the other way round for top Indian leaders. Kanti Desai is one of the major liabilities of Prime Minister Morarji Desai, Kanti is the only son of his father and lives with his father, It is alleged that he has close connections with top business houses draws salary from a sterling company, has raised multi millions for the Janata Party, schedules his father's political affairs and is on record "I am available when needed" meaning a prime minister in waiting. Other top notch in Janata want Morarji to pack off his son to Bombay before unity talks can start. Kanti may be his father's undoing.

Another son of illustrious father is Suresh-the only progeny of Jagjivan Ram, the Defence Minister. Suresh too lives with his father. Recently his Mercedes was intercepted at midnight by men of a Delhi youth organisation. He and his girl friend were overpowered and beaten up. Photographs of his girl friend Sushma in compromising poses and fit for publication in girlie magazines are doing the rounds of Delhi. Suresh who is 40, married and a former member of legislative assembly is accused of using parliament's bungalows for night spots. He has now filed a divorce suit against his wife whom he married in secret against his father's wishes. His present girl friend is a college student whose brother is an office boy and father a farmer. Suresh too has embarrassed his father.

Charan Singh's son works for IBM – a company forced out of India alongwith son. His son-in-law is a surgeon who stitched scissors inside the abdomen of a patient. When questioned why the son-in-law is not taken to task for the lapse, Charan Singh said "The boy is an excellent surgeon. Scissors should have been taken out by the nurse".

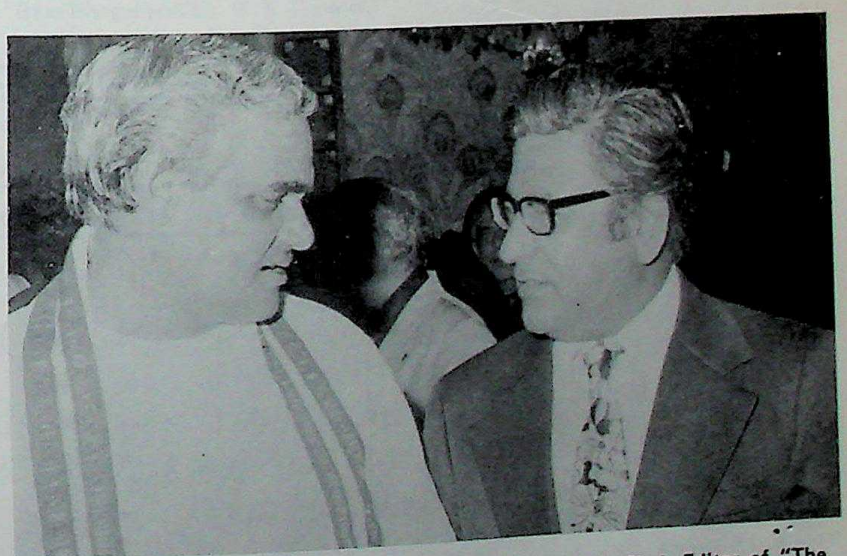
The story of famous and infamous Sanjay who pulled down his mother Indira from his post of Prime Ministership and being the most powerful woman in the world is too well known.

In all these cases, the parents, paid or are paying for the sins of their sons. And the parent in no case want to be separated from the son. It was Mahatma Gandhi who promptly and publically disowned his son, Hiralal who became wayward and drunkard.

Indian Politics is full of father-son angle. Motilal gave Nehru who gave Indira who gave Sanjay to India. It is the fourth generation leadership. Govindbalbh Pant, the late Home Minister and the grand old man of India, gave us K.C. Pant, a minister of Indira Gandhi and now a Swaran Singh Congressman. Ravi Shankar Shukla ruled over Madhya Pradesh for over 15 years till his death. He bequeathed two sons to India. One succeeded his father, other was Vidya Charan Shukla, the Media Minister of Indira Gandhi who is more handsome than most film stars and whose exploits are reported to put film stars to shame. There are many more.

Minions of the great have followed their leaders in true spirit. Kamlapati-the Indira man who ruled over the Nehru's home state gave us Lokpati who is a true answer to Morarji's Kanti. Surrinder excelled his father Bansilal-Indira's Defence Minister in extracting vengeance in Haryana. Even the families of the unfortunate were wiped out. Another Surrinder led his father to public disgrace and eventful murder, Partap Singh Kairon-the maker of modern Punjab, the richest state in the Indian Union.

Why do fathers stick on to their sons even when the latter are old enough to be persons in their own right. Is it the desire to pass on inheritence? Is it there are some deeds that can be entrusted only to one of the blood? It is just that an old Hindu afraid of dying anytime, seeks to keep his son nearby to be available to lit the pyre at cremation without which Moksha could be denied?



Atal Bihari Vajpayee Foreign Minister of India and K. Sital, Editor of "The Indian" in deep discussion of the problems of Overseas Indians. Mr. Vajpayee has taken a keen interest in the Indians settled abroad.

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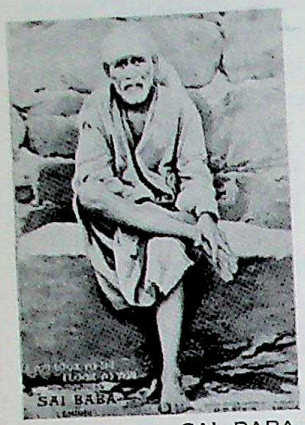

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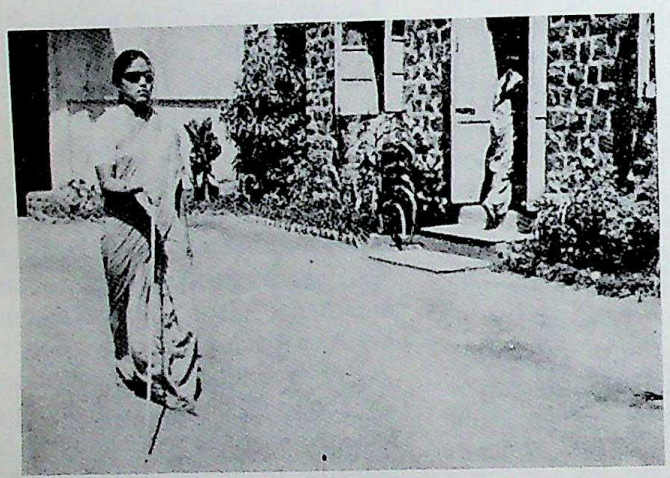

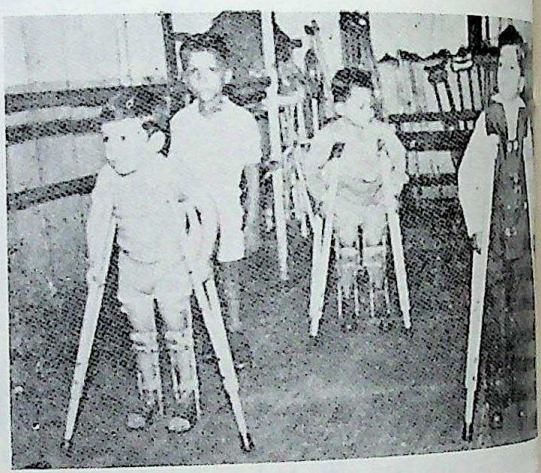

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BHAJAN SAMMELAN IN MALAWI

All Malawi Ninth Bhajan Sammelan was held on 5th and 6th August in the enchanting environment of the New Capital of Malawi – Lilongwe. Hindus and Sikhs in hundreds joined the congregation. Swami Krishnanandji, the founder of the Bhajan Sammelan movement in Africa came all the way from Hong Kong to inaugurate the two days divine conference. His Excellency The Indian High Commissioner Mr. Sahay and Mrs. Sahay took very keen interest on both the days. Among other distinguished guests were Mr. B.D. Dholakia (Senior Resident Magistrate at Blantyre), Mr. K.J. Amin – Chairman of all Malawi Bhajan Sammelan, Mr. V. K. Ganatra – Chairman of Shree Hindu Seva Mandal, Blantyre, Mr. Harbans Singh – Chairman Sikh Association of Malawi, Shri Ram Bhagat, a renowned folk singer from India also participated in the conference and gave it a very divine and humourous colour. A devotional singer from Rhodesia was also present.

Malawi has its own speciality as far as Bhajan Sammelans are concerned from its inception in 1969. All Indians irrespective of creed and languages always take part with enthusiasm and religious zeal. It takes the form of a cultural representative conference where young and old alike participate. In this year's conference the youngest artist was a girl of 3 years old who amazed everyone by her singing and

A devotional singer from Rhodesia is seen rendering a bhajan. Seated are from left: Mr. Sahay, Indian High Commissioner, Swami Krishnanandji, Mr. K. J. Amin, Shri Ram Bhagat and Mr. V. K. Ganatra.

Part of the audience seen engrossed in kirtan.

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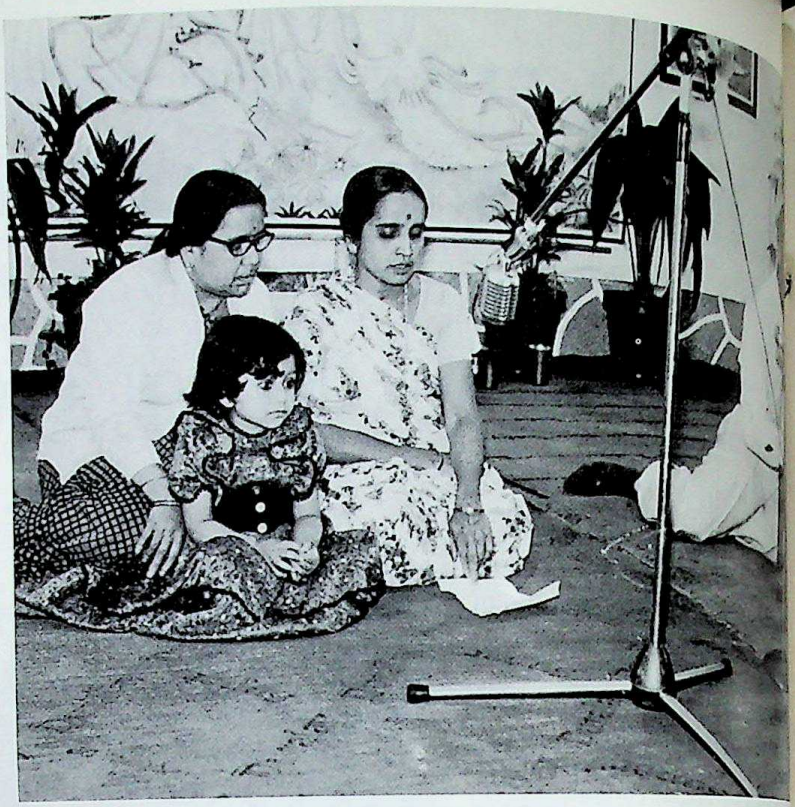
dancing. Among the talented artists and groups who kept people spell-bound till 12.30 a.m. were Shri Ram Bhagat of India, Ambica Sinhai, a talented Bharat Natyam dancer from Sri Lanka, Mrs. Sarkar from India, Mahila Satsang Mandal, Blantyre and Lilongwe and the Sikh Kirtan Group.

All the catering arrangements, reception and accomodation in that small place were superb. The spirit behind the cultural, religious and social upliftment of Lilongwe is Shri H.B. Patel. From the very beginning when there was no temple in Lilongwe for the Hindus to come together for worship, social and other religious gatherings, Mr. Patel's generosity inspired the young workers who put in form the present beautiful temple, catering and dining hall and gardens.

On the night of 6th August at 12.30 a.m. after the summing up, benediction from Swami Krishnanandji, Arti and Prasad, the historical and very successful Sammelan came to an end. Mr. V. K. Ganatra, Chairman of the Hindu Seva Mandal of Blantyre very cordially extended the invitation for the 10th Bhajan Sammelan in Bl... which was accepted with ... applause and cheers.



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WORK STARTS ON JANATA HOTEL

The foundation stone of India's first Janata Hotel – to be called the Ashoka Yatri Niwas – was laid in New Delhi recently by the country's Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation Mr. Purushottam Kaushik.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Kaushik said the government's limited resources available for tourism development would be used entirely for the creation of facilities for middle and low income tourists, both domestic and foreign.

If Indian private sector companies involved in hotel construction were to set aside some capital for the building of hotels for middle income tourists, the government might consider providing them with financial and other assistance.

Making a strong plea for an integrated approach to tourism, the minister said that if both sides placed more emphasis on developing domestic tourism, the old division of responsibility between the government and the states of India would come to an end.

"The programme to be taken up by the government will no longer be exclusively devoted to stimulating international tourism," continued Mr. Kaushik. "It will be equally geared for the promotion of domestic tourism and the provision of facilities for our own countrymen.

"This has been accepted as a fundamental responsibility of the government."

Referring to misgivings in certain quarters about the viability of Janata hotels and their acceptability by foreign tourists, the minister said that all a tourist needed today was a clean and comfortable room and close proximity to the centre of town.

If these requirements were met, there could be no reason why a foreign tourist should not prefer the Janata-type properties to their more fancied 'star' counterparts.

He also wanted tourists to spend more on shopping and on seeing India's places of cultural and historic interest rather than spending large amounts at five-star hotels.

The minister added that he did not understand the logic advanced by some people that the central site in New Delhi for the first Janata hotel should not have been "wasted" by being used as accommodation premises for domestic tourists.

This attitude depicted an "exclusiveness" felt by foreign tourists and affluent Indians over middle and low income tourists.

Mr. Kaushik stated there should be an intermixing of people so that foreign visitors could go back home with an understanding of India's rich cultural heritage and the way of life of the country's people.

The Lieutenant-Governor of Delhi, who presided over the Janata hotel ceremony, said the construction of the property was an important event for the capital.

He added he had always believed that, apart from providing facilities for foreign tourists, India should also do something for its own people.

The building of two Janata accommodation units had been incorporated in the Union Territory of Delhi's budget.

Mr. C.B. Jain, India's director-general of tourism, said that the Janata hotel was the first of several hotels that would be constructed in different parts of the country during a current five-year plan period.

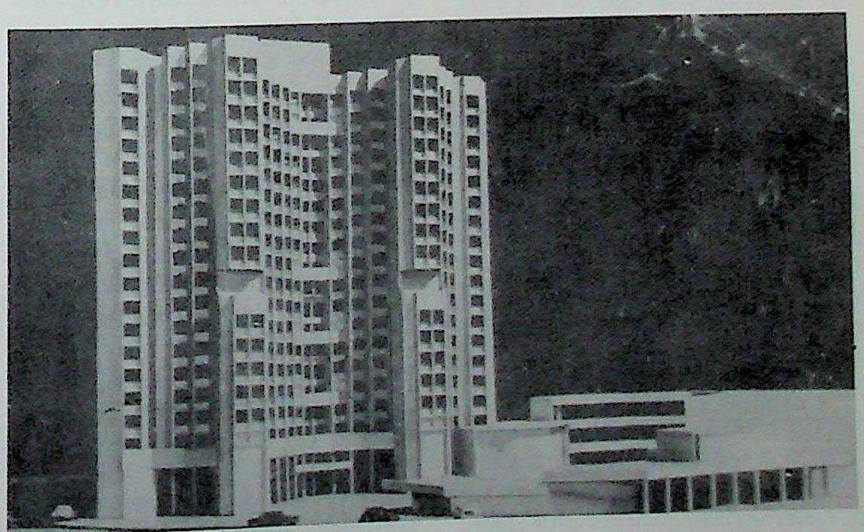
Mr. A.K. Dave, head of the India Tourism Development Corporation – which is building the hotel – commented that simplicity, beauty, cleanliness and service would be the establishment's hallmark.

The 1,250-bed Ashoka Yatri Niwas is being built in two phases. At the end of the first, 800 beds will be provided with the remainder coming on line nine months to one year afterwards.

Tariffs proposed are Rs. 10 (US$1.20) a night for dormitory accommodation, Rs. 15 ($1.80) for a single room and Rs. 25 ($3) for a double room.

When completed, the 20-storey hotel will be one of the tallest buildings in Delhi. It will offer 565 rooms with attached bathrooms.

Facilities will include a restaurant, coffee shop, recreation room and a shopping arcade in which 40 shops and 35 tourist information centres will be located.



Model of India's first Janata hotel in Delhi.

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SCHOLAR-DIPLOMAT SIDDHARTH ACHARRY

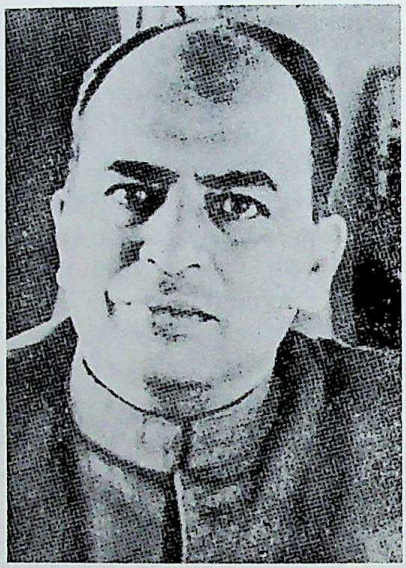
Retires from Foreign Service to go into Vanaprastha

By G. S. Muthukrishnan

AN ASSET TO COMMUNITY

After a long and distinguished career covering three full decades, our Indian High Commissioner here in Singapore, Shri Venkata Siddharthacharry (Mr. V.S. Charry, for short) has just retired from diplomatic service and gone back home to his native State of Mysore to enter into *Vanaprastha*, the third *ashrama* according to Hindu shastras. I regret his retirement, not just because he is only 58 – which is far from an old age for a diplomat or politician to retire – but he is such a scholarly figure and his presence here had added immensely to the prestige and status of our Indian community. So his absence has made us visibly that much poorer and weaker, in the cultural sense, that is.

Mr. Charry was no stranger when he came here three years ago to present his credentials. Having spent his younger days in these parts – his father was then practising law in Johore Bahru – he studied at the Johore Bahru English School and then at the prestigious Raffles Institution in Singapore, before finally going on to Oxford for his higher studies. He had therefore taken to Singapore quite naturally as a duck takes to water. When he came back here as a diplomat, he was already familiar with this country and its peoples – their culture and traditions.



A GREAT LINGUIST

He was also a great linguist – proficient in Mandarin, Latin, German and French, besides of course English and several Indian languages including particularly Sanskrit. With this vast store of linguistic wisdom, Mr. Charry has a unique halo about him and impressed everyone as a towering personality, pedagogic and scholarly. Indeed, throughout his tour of duty here, he was very popular and outstanding in the diplomatic circles and also in our community. Apart from everything, the one quality which most endeared him and his devoted wife Shrimati Andal to one and all was their humility, and readiness to mix with everybody high or low, Indian or non-Indian.

NEXT INDIAN H.C. IN SINGAPORE

Mr. Charry joined the dipl... service in 1948, and served ... ious parts of the world ... coming to Singapore in 197... the end of his assignment, ... here for home on Aug ... successor, Mr. Bhupatrai Oza ... Indian Deputy High Commis... in Sri Lanka, is expected to ... here in a couple of months ... then, Mr. B.M.C. Nayar, fir... cretary, will be the acting ... Commissioner.

INDIA GETTING CLOSER TO S.E.A.

In a farewell press confe... Mr. Charry said that India ... become South-east Asia's ... neighbour when it develope... Nicobar Islands (the major ... which is larger than Singapo... 160km from Sumatra). About ... Indian families have already ... into the Greater Nicobar Islan... more will be moving in as de... ment progresses. Mr. Charry ... the Nicobar development ... take place in harmony with ... pore. "The two can be very ... plementary," he said. In ... development of the Nicobar ... geographical compulsions, b... by the security provided by ... defence, had to be taken into ... sideration. "Unless we develop ... island, we will not be able to ...

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our influence in South-east Asia," he said.

INDIAN AID TO VIETNAM

According to Mr. Charry, any Indian role in bringing the countries of South-east Asia closer together will centre around its aid programme to Vietnam. Stability comes through prosperity, and if Vietnam becomes economically established there should be no reason for instability. Economic aid to Vietnam is therefore important. India has given aid to Vietnam for sometime now. She has however not given aid to Kampuchea with whom she has no diplomatic relations. Mr. Charry felt that the main danger in this part of the world is one of economics of states being too dependent on trade beyond its frontiers. For, from this will come the political danger as politicians list from right to left. In his view, inter-regional trade with South and South-east Asia is one way of bringing the countries closer together.

DIALOGUE WITH ASEAN

On the five-nation Asean grouping (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand), he said India is ready for formalised dialogue with them to foster closer economic relations. "This matter was dealt with in Pattaya (Thailand) by Asean foreign ministers. The ball is in Asean's court," he said. Asked to comment on Asean's proposed zone of peace, freedom and neutrality, the High Commissioner observed: "India also has a peace zone. Peace is indivisible. If there is no peace in the sub-continent, there will be no peace in South-east Asia. Peace has no boundaries. We are too intimately connected to have one zone and another zone."

GOOD RELATIONS WITH SINGAPORE

Commenting on relations between India and Singapore, Mr. Charry said they had been good throughout. There have been more person-to-person contacts between Indian and Singapore ministers since the Janata Party came into power in India, and relationship has thus become closer. The two prime ministers have met. So have the foreign ministers, too. The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Dr. Goh Keng Swee, was able to undertake a long-awaited visit to India. Singapore, in his view, is an ideal location to promote India's trade with other countries in this region and beyond.

SIX INDIAN JOINT VENTURES IN SINGAPORE

India has about six joint ventures operating in Singapore, and it is now up to Singapore to take the next step in having some joint ventures in India. "There are good possibilities for Singapore to enter into joint ventures in India, especially in petrochemicals (one of the largest petrochemical plants in Asia is located in Baroda), electronics and shipbuilding. If there is a new initiative from Singapore, Indians will reciprocate. It has got to be a two-way traffic," said Mr. Charry. He also hoped to see corresponding ventures from Singapore in India.

I hope that readers of *"india news"* will continue their interest in my ancient but perennial Society which now continues uniquely a tradition of four millennia. New Heads with new talents will give new life to "india news" even as the pageant of Avatars has instilled new life into the Indic Society with its perennial philosophy, the *Parampara Dharma* in which catholicity, tolerance, adaptability and dynamism ensure eternity.

May "india news", reverberating as it were the eternal Raga played on the heart strings of *Bharatavarsha* re-echo in Concord the eternally re-creative dance of Shiva upon our dear, dear Land. As my wife and I now step, in great hope and with eagerness, into a new and bright light I would end with the following ancient prayer which I would also commend to "india news" and its readers:

तमसो मा ज्योतिर्गमय *

Singapore

(V. SIDDHARTHACHARRY)
High Commissioner of India.

FAREWELL PARTIES

Prior to their departure, Mr and Mrs Charry were entertained to several farewell parties, one of which was jointly organised by the various Indian enterprises in Singapore, such as Air India; Indian banks (Bank of India, Indian Bank, Indian Overseas Bank, State Bank of India and United Commercial Bank); Indian insurance companies (National, New India, Oriental and United India); India Tourist Office; Indian joint ventures (Cooling System & Flexibles, Enamelled Wires, Godrej, Tata Precision Industries, and Parle); Oberoi Imperial Hotel; the representatives of the Indian Engineering Export Promotion Council, Indian Handlooms, Shipping Corporation of India, and the State Trading Corporation of India; and the officers and staff of the High Commission of India in Singapore. The Singapore Dakshina Bharata Brahmana Sabha also gave a dinner in honour of the outgoing Indian High Commissioner and his wife. All functions in their honour were largely attended.

THE THIRD ASHRAMA

As to what he intends doing after retirement, I cannot describe better

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than by quoting what he himself has stated in his farewell message to "India News" the High Commission's own official monthly publication. Writing under the heading "Adieu," Mr. Charry says: "I shall in a few days have entered my *Vanaprasthashrama,* the Life of Retirement, in the relatively close and desirable embrace of Nature. For all of the Brahmanic faith, such as I am, it is the third *Ashrama* of the four phases of an ideal Universal, Brahmanic life following the stages of continence, concentration and study which is *Brahmacharya,* which comes soon after infancy; and of *Grahasthashrama,* husbandry, which commences with marriage and represents man's active life in Society, including particularly, the rearing of a *Dharmic* or Law abiding family."

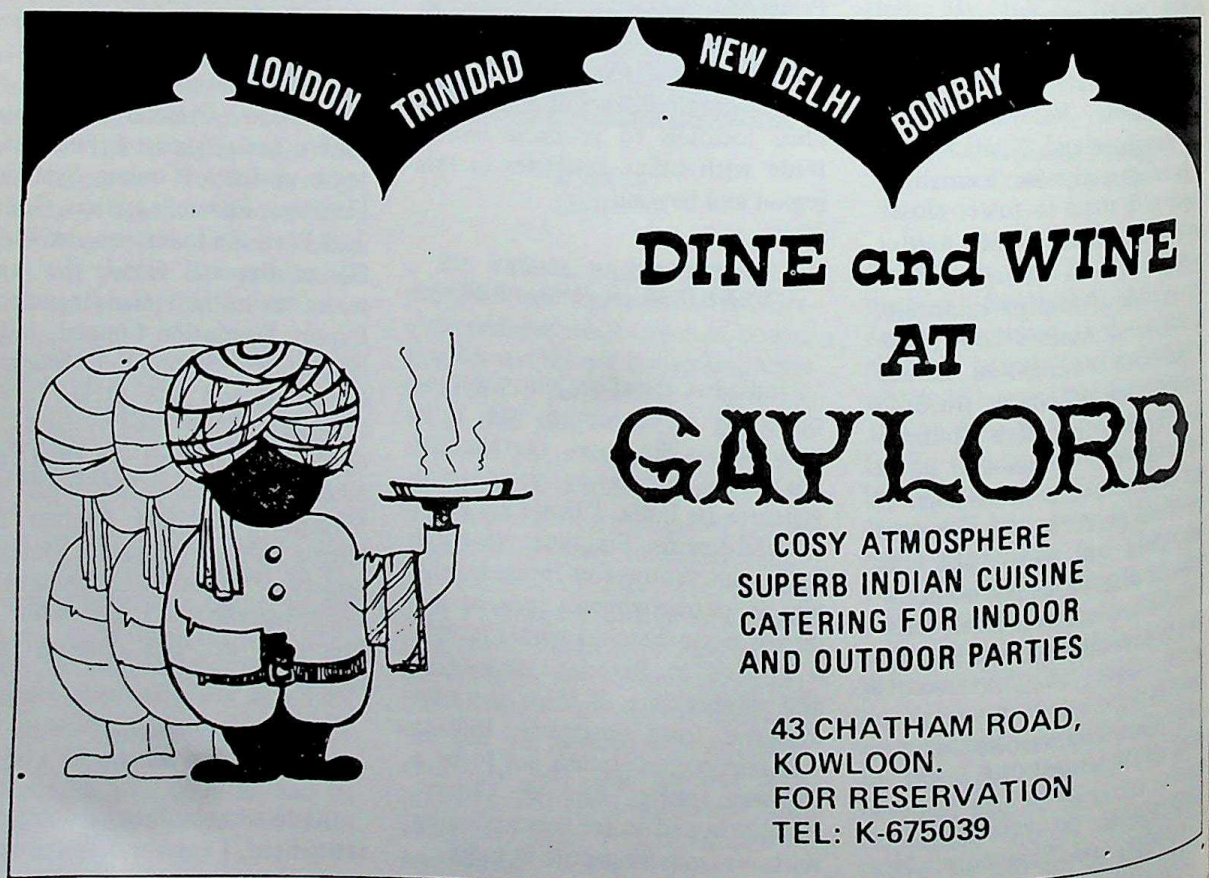
BACK TO TEACHING

Mr. Charry then goes to explain that *Vana,* literally "The Forest," is environment calm and surrounded by Nature. If circumstances permit *Sanyasa* follows '*Vanaprastha.*' In it even minimal family bonds are cast aside; and life concludes in total dedication to the All. To few is it possible to attain *Sanyasa,* if only because very few live to the age of seventy necessary to accommodate even the first three stages. Says Mr. Charry: *Brahmacharya* should start by the 11th year at the latest and *Grahastha* by the 25th. The signal for *Vanaprasthaashrama,* the visa if you will upon the passport of a *Dharmic* life, is perhaps the first sight of the bright visage of one's son's son."

Mr. Charry adds: "Happily, my Dharmapatni, Shrimati Andal, and I have happily beheld that visage. Eagerly we proceed to graduate to our long awaited next Abode wherein with her precious assistance I hope once again to become a teacher even as I was 36 years ago. Fortunately, this time I shall teach, purely, for love and not, though even then only partially, for a living."

A MEMORABLE LANDMARK

Before concluding, I would like to point out that the "India News" was launched by Mr. Charry himself soon after taking over his job here. In launching it, he fulfilled a long felt want. For several years prior to Mr. Charry's arrival, the Indian High Commission here had no official publication to enlighten the public about happenings in India. The Indian community too were without an English journal ever since the closing down of the *The Indian Daily Mail* in 1956. And the local English papers too carried only very meagre news about India. So the advent of the "India News" was indeed a memorable landmark in the Indian High Commission's history in Singapore. Under Mr. Charry's guidance, the "India News" has proved itself to be extremely enlightening and educative. It is to be hoped his successor will continue the good work that he has so ably carried on.



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KENYA MOURNS THE DEATH OF KENYATTA

By Shamlal Puri

Our special correspondent who flew to Nairobi to file this exclusive report, among others to THE INDIAN:

It was 22nd August. The time was just before 1 pm. Kenyans were at lunch. And the State owned radio network, *Voice of Kenya* started playing Kenya's national anthem. For those everyday listeners of the *Voice of Kenya,* it was very unusual to hear the national anthem in the middle of the normal programmes. Surely, something special was to follow. Then came the splash announcement, first in Kiswahili, the National language, followed by English and Hindi which shook the countrymen with grief. The radio announcers said in sombre voices, "It has been announced from State House, Nairobi that His Excellency the President and the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Kenya, Mzee Jomo Kenyatta passed away peacefully in his sleep at 3.30 this morning at State House Mombasa."

These words marked the end of an era in Kenya. The country was engulfed in a blanket of serenity and gloom. Shops pulled down their shutters. Office goers in all the four corners of this country returned to their homes and glued themselves to their radio sets in the anticipation

Late President Mzee Jomo Kenyatta with his fly wisk raised up.

of further announcements. This was the day when everything came to a standstill in Kenya; this was the day of tears in Kenya; this was a black day in the history of Kenya, for, the man described as the lion of Africa was no more.

From Monday night, through to the early hours of Tuesday, 22nd August, four senior doctors and 3 nurses attended to the President in his Mombasa State House. Mr Eluid Mahihu, the Provincial Commissioner of Coast province, whose headquarters are in Mombasa rushed to the State House on Monday night when he learnt of President Kenyatta's worsening condition. Mr Mahihu saw the doctors trying their best to save Kenyatta's life. After sometime, the doctors told him and others assembled at the State House, Mombasa, "He is dead," and no more.

Nobody could believe it. Mama Ngina Kenyatta, the late President's wife, her children and everyone was stunned. Mr Mahihu hurriedly telephoned, the Vice President Mr Daniel arap Moi who was in Nairobi and as he was overcome with shock, Mr Mahihu could only say, "Kenya has lost its eyes." For a while, a shocked Mr Moi could not believe it either.

A few hours after the first announcement of the death of the 89 year old Jomo Kenyatta came another announcement, from the *Voice of Kenya,* "It has been further announced from State House, Nairobi that the Vice President, His Excellency Mr Daniel arap Moi shall exercise the functions of the Office

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of the President."

After an urgent Cabinet meeting, Sir James Wick, the Chief Justice of Kenya swore Mr Moi as the President of Kenya.

On Tuesday night, 22nd August, the body of the late President was flown to Nairobi from Mombasa in a Kenya Airforce plane.

The following day, on 23rd August, Mzee Kenyatta's body was lying in State at the State House, Nairobi. Scores of Cabinet ministers, Kenya's diplomats abroad who had arrived earlier in the month on a routine consultation meeting with the late President Kenyatta and foreign diplomats accredited to Kenya were invited to pay their respects to the departed leader. I was among the few privileged international journalists to have been the first to have a glimpse of President Kenyatta's body lying in State.

When I entered the banquetting hall of the State House, I saw the body of the late President Kenyatta had been laid on a table. Standing nearby were his widow, Mama Ngina Kenyatta, Mzee Kenyatta's children – Margaret Kenyatta, former Mayoress of Nairobi; Peter Muigui Kenyatta, an assistant foreign minister of Kenya and James Muigui, President Kenyatta's brother.

The hall presented a very sombre atmosphere. The late President lay in an eternal sleep with a mild smile on his lips. He was dressed in his favourite blue striped suit; a neat white shirt, a necktie depicting the national colours of Kenya. He held his famous fly whisk in his right hand and his ubiquitous walking stick in his left hand. At a first glance, one would never say that President Kenyatta, the lion of Africa was dead; one would just assume that he was fast asleep.

As I took pictures of President Kenyatta's body, I was reminded of innumerable occasions when I had photographed him. I was overcome with grief even when I thought that the last time I had been to the State House, Nairobi I had seen President Kenyatta, about a year ago, dancing gaily with various dancers from Kenya's rich tribal cultures. I had often seen the President smiling on such occasions.

The new president of Kenya, Mr. Daniel Arap Moi; pictured with Mr Shamlal Puri.

Photo: Andrew Holc of H.A.N.S.

I have travelled almost all over the world, particularly in Africa – I have met so many leaders in my career but President Kenyatta was one such leader, Africa could not have afforded to loose. He was well known for his sacrifices to his people – one who had coined the famous Swahili slogan 'Harambee' which means "let's pull together".

Then various Cabinet ministers, Kenya's diplomats abroad who had earlier come to Kenya for regular consultations with the late President; foreign diplomats accredited to Kenya were allowed to pay their respects to President Kenyatta. After this, the doors of the State House were opened for the general public to file past the President's body and to pay their respects to the departed leader. President Kenyatta's Security Officer Wanyoike Thungu wept loudly after seeing Kenyatta's body. Thungu was brought especially from a local hospital on a stretcher. He had been recuperating after an accident earlier on. Even the former Kenyan Labour Minister, Ngala Mwendwa had to be helped out after he had collapsed with grief on seeing President Kenyatta's body.

Scores of common Kenyans cried aloud and others fainted on seeing President Kenyatta's body.

Meanwhile, from all over the world tributes poured in for the departed leader. The President of India and Prime Minister Morarji Desai also sent their condolences to the new President, Moi. The Indian leaders spoke of their close ties with Kenya. Infact, the former Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi had visited Kenya a few years ago.

The local Indian community shared the grief of President Kenyatta's death. Condolence meetings were held by various Indian religious organisations throughout Kenya.

The Hindu Council organised a prayer meeting in the memory of Mzee Kenyatta. It was attended by members of all the Hindu communities – the Arya Samaj, the Sikhs, the Cutchi Gujaratis, the Visha Oshwal Community, the Parsi Community and many others. Glowing tributes were paid to Mzee Kenyatta. Speakers included Justice C. Madan a well known lawyer; Mr Chandaria of the well known Chandaria business group, the Indian High Commissioner to Kenya, Mr A.N.D. Haksar, Mr Kul Bhushan, Mr T.S. Nandhra and many others.

The Arya Samaj, Nairobi also organised a condolence meeting and the religious 'Havan' for the eternal

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peace to the departed soul.

Other Indian religious organisation which paid glowing tributes to the Late President included Sri Guru Singh Sabha, Sanathan Dharam Sabha, the Ismaili community, among many others.

Workmen, meanwhile worked round to the clock to construct a mausoleum, where the remains of the late President would be laid to rest. The mausoleum, constructed in the vicinity of the Kenya's Parliament grounds was a fitting tribute to Mzee Kenyatta who according to Fred Mati, Speaker of the country's National Assembly was the upholder of Parliamentary rule in Kenya.

Leaders and dignitaries from all over the world started to pour in Nairobi to attend the State Funeral of Mzee Kenyatta. Notable leaders were Prime Minister Morarji Desai of India who led a high ranking government delegation which included Mr Apa Pant, the first Indian High Commissioner to Kenya and a close friend of President Jomo Kenyatta; Pakistan was represented by the military leader, Mr Zia ul Haq; Presidents Julius Nyerere of Tanzania; Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia; Siaka Stevens of Sierra Leone, William Tolbert of Liberia, Idi Amin of Uganda among others. Britain was represented by Prince Charles, the heir apparent to the British throne, who represented Queen Elizabeth. The Aga Khan, the leader of the Ismaili Community also flew from Paris to represent his community at the State Funeral.

A gun carriage was flown in especially from Britain to carry the casket containing Mzee Kenyatta's remains from the State House, Nairobi to the Parliament Grounds, the final resting place. This carriage indicated Britain's high esteem for Kenyatta, for, the last time, it was used to transport the remains of the British hero, Winston Churchill.

Among full military honours, President Kenyatta was laid to rest.

Although, he is no more, President Kenyatta will be remembered for his sacrifice and one who at a great personal risk fought for the freedom of Kenyans. Personally, I would remember, Kenya's First President, Mzee Jomo Kenyatta as an ever smiling gentleman leader on whom I had focused my cameras innumerable times and everytime, I would get the best picture of him.

True, after Mahatma Gandhi, President Kenyatta is among the very few who have been so highly honoured in the ranks of world politicians – Kenya will have to wait for ages to get another Jomo Kenyatta, a deeply religious man, for whom, the Bhagwad Geeta, was a great source of inspiration. He will be known for his broadminded approach to the freedom of worship.

LOVE IN TOKYO

30-year-old Miyoko Komoro came to India with hopes of clearing up misunderstandings and dreams of marrying the man she loves.

Her hopes were belied and her dreams ended in a lonely hotel where she slashed her wrist and almost died, awakening in the Sassoon Hospital with a guard at the door.

FIRST VISIT

It all started towards the end of 1976 when Arun, a resident of Aurangabad, went to Tokyo in connection with his electronics business. There he met Miyoko, tall and slim, a teacher at Takahagi, some distance from Tokyo. She had been recommended to him as a Japanese interpreter and language teacher.

The relationship ripened into love and they decided to get married. The boy returned to India and letters were exchanged and finally, Miyoko came to India to see things for herself. It was a kind of "premarital adjustment" that the girl was trying to make.

During her six-week stay in the country, the girl stayed with the boy's relatives and in hotels, touring parts of India at leisure. She returned to Japan in August and the letters resumed, containing a proposal of marriage which was accepted.

Suddenly there was silence from this end. Miyoko, too, became ill for some time and her communication was sporadic, though there were a couple of phone calls from her.

MARRIAGE PLANS

In June, she finally wrote asking about the finalisation of marriage plans. In answer, she received a reply saying the boy was already married.

Miyoko came to clear up what she thought were "misunderstanding". She stayed in a hotel in the city (where she had a few friends) and arranged to meet the boy in Pune.

He arrived, along with his father, and after a painful interview in which she was made to understand that the marriage had really taken place, and during which her bewilderment increased further at the fact that the father refused to let her speak to the boy alone. Miyoko looked herself in to "resolve" her problems.

She slashed her wrist and is reported to have taken some pills. When she did not emerge, the authorities broke open the door and found her unconscious. She was rushed to the Sassoon Hospital. The Japanese vice-consul was informed and a friend came to her from Bombay.

And Miyoko, who had dreamed of marriage, woke up to find herself in a hospital room with a guard at the door and a charge under section 309, attempting to commit suicide, slapped upon her.

At present she is in the city, undergoing treatment. It remains to be seen how the legal difficulties will be resolved and the Japanese consulate is looking into the matter. So are the Pune police, who took a statement from her along with some of the boy's letters.

For the rest Miyoko will return to Japan, using her two-way ticket she perhaps thought she would not have to use. Her future plans are vague though they could include a two-year stint in Hawaii University. And of course, recovering from her dream of a marriage in India.

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RAMANAND SAGAR
STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL & ULTIMATE SUCCESS

By Raj Darbari

Mr. Sagar, the famous movie director, writer and producer, is now going to direct "Yogeshwar Krishna". The movie script has been written by the present Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai. It is a script written in English about Lord Krishna. The producer of the movie is Jai Gopal Mohla. The leading stars which have been signed are Shashi Kapoor as Lord Krishna, Dharmendra as Arjuna, Vinod Khanna, Rishi Kapoor and others.

Ramanand Sagar, the man of the celluloid world, began his life as a goldsmith's apprentice. It was a long and difficult path he traversed from a truck cleaner, soap vendor, typist clerk, assistant editor, and in the midst of his struggle for survival, tragedy struck him when he became an advanced T.B. patient. It was on his death bed, in the sanatorium in Gulmarg, in the year 1941 that he wrote his first famous literary work "The Diary of a T.B. Patient". Sagar dreamed of a life which would unveil all the beauties of nature. The writer in him had out-grown the man, and when Sagar picked up his pen the rivers of ink began to flow as he expressed his hearts desire and dreams through journalism, novels, and then finally film making.

As a writer the Illustrated Weekly has aptly commented on him "Ramanand Sagar has a hand on the public pulse". His novel "Aur Insaan Mar Gaya" (And Humanity Died), depicting the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947, puts the shattered pieces of human values into a strong piece of human greatness, it puts him into a select coterie of nationally known literature. The book became a best seller. His great

Ramanand Sagar pictured with India's Prime Minister Morarji Desai discussing film "Yogeshwar Krishna."

versatility as a writer was shown not only by the sizzling action packed thrillers he wrote like "Lalkar" and "Ankhen", but he has also been able to portray the soft and emotional side of his nature in the stories for pure love "Barsaat" and "Geet", which marked a new watershed in the Indian film industry, and left an everlasting memory in the minds of young and old.

In 1968 Sagar was the winner of the "Filmfare Award" for the best director for his movie "Ankhen". His movie "Geet" won him the AIFA award in 1970, and the International Cultural Organisation Award of 1970. This movie was chosen as the best picture with the best director, best music, photography and acting.

His movie "Arzoo" which was written, produced and directed by him, was a record breaker at the box office in the Indian subcontinent, middle East, S. East Asia, East Africa, West Indies and was also widely applauded in Russia.

"Why do you make films?"

"Films are the strongest media of mass communication" says Sagar, "In India I portray my thoughts in a book, the readership is limited to a few blessed educated masses, who already can think for themselves, but the rickshaw pullers, the labourers, mill workers and millions of others for whom life has never unfolded its philosophical ideals, can be touched deep through the film." "Hence in my films," he added, "I always portray the goodness of human souls. To attract the common masses we have to make films full of entertainment and in the undercurrent present our idealistic views. It has to be a sugar coated pill."

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The INDIA EMPORIUM Group in a nutshell

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Cookery

GOANESE DISHES

BIBINCA

The piece de resistance of any Goan meal is the many layered, golden brown Bibinca. Unexciting to look at, but a sheer delight to the tongue, it is the long slow baking of a Bibinca that makes its preparation a true labour of love.

INGREDIENTS

20 egg yolks
2 lbs. granulated sugar
2 large coconuts
8 oz. refined white flour
4 oz. white butter (saltless)
For flavour:
1 tsp. vanilla essence, or rose water
½ tsp. powdered cardamom or nutmeg.

METHOD

A: Grate the coconuts and extract thick juice by mixing the gratings with 2 tea cups of hot water and putting through an electric blender or a hand operated mouli. Strain the liquid through a muslin before using. Repeat the process using another tea cup of hot water to obtain a thin juice. Mix the two together and cool. When the juice is cool, add beaten egg yolks and flour and blend till smooth and creamy.

B: Place sugar and half its volume of water in a pan and cook together till thick, mix in A and add one of the four flavourings mentioned.

C: Pre-heat the oven to a moderate temperature (about 300°F). Place 3 tablespoons butter in a deep round pan, approximately 8-10" in diameter. Pour in one tea cup of batter or enough to cover the bottom of the pan and bake till golden. Spread a little butter on the top and pour another cup of batter on it, making sure that the heat from below is switched off, and only the heat from above such as a grill is being used. Bake each layer till golden before pouring on the next cupful of batter.

It is essential that the lower layers of the Bibinca are not allowed to burn or dehydrate.

When the Bibinca is done, allow it to cool before turning out onto a dish. Decorate the top with silvered almonds or cashew nuts.

BOLO GOSTOSO

Coconut cake with a difference

INGREDIENTS

2 lbs. sugar
1 lb. semolina
2 medium coconuts grated
6 egg yolks
4 tablespoons butter
4 oz. cashewnuts chopped
4 cardamoms

METHOD

Put the sugar and one cup water in a saucepan and cook till the syrup is thick. Add the coconut and continue cooking, stirring constantly till the mixture becomes dry. Then add the butter.

Remove from the fire and add sifted semolina and mix well. Allow to cool before adding the beaten egg yolks. Then add cashewnuts and powdered cardamom seeds.

Butter a flan or pie dish and line it with short crust pastry or the Kulkul mixture rolled out thinly. Pour in the cake mixture. Crimp the pastry edges and decorate the top of the cake with strips of the same pastry, arranged in a lattice design. Bake in a moderate oven 300°F, or till the cake has risen and is a pale gold in colour.

BOLINHAS

The coconut and semolina cookies.

INGREDIENTS

1 large coconut grated
1 lb. sugar
6 egg yolks
12 oz. semolina
Vanilla essence

METHOD

Cook sugar in three tablespoons of water till syrupy. Add coconut gratings and cook till the mixture is thick and looks dry. When cool, add the beaten egg yolks, semolina and vanilla essence and beat well. Cover and keep aside for at least two hours in a cool place but not in a refrigerator.

Grease two baking trays lightly, dust with flour and place small spoonfulls of mixture on them, leaving room for the cookies to spread. Press a raisin onto the top of each Bolinhas and bake in a moderate oven for 15 to 20 minutes till the biscuits are a pale gold and cooked through.

KULKULS

Small shell shaped cookies

INGREDIENTS

1 lb. white flour
4 oz. semolina
4 oz. icing sugar
2 tablespoons margarine
2 egg yolks
A little fresh milk or coconut milk

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METHOD

Sift flour, and salt together. Also sift the semolina, but separately. Then mix them together. Also mix in the icing sugar. Rub margarine into the dry ingredients till the mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Add beaten egg yolks and enough milk to form a soft but not sticky dough. Keep aside for a few hours in a covered pan.

Divide the dough into tennis ball-size portions and then shape each portion into long sausage like rolls about 1" thick. Break off a small piece at a time – roughly the size of a marble, flatten it on the teeth of a new comb. Lift one of the edges and roll it towards the opposite edge to form a shell shape. Pinch the two edges neatly together and keep aside. Repeat till half the dough is used up, then deep fry all the Kulkuls to a golden brown. Repeat the process with the remaining dough.

Another way of making the Kulkuls is to roll out the dough to ¼" thickness and cut into squares 1½" long. Pick two opposite ends of the square – fold them towards you, and fold the other two ends away from you. Pinch both sides firmly and twist slightly. Fry in the same way.

SANS RIVAL

With the twenty egg whites that remain from the Bibinca, use ten each to make Sans Rival and Tigelinhas de Conde. As the name suggests, Sans Rival is of French origin, and is a sure hit at tea-time or as a dessert with a difference.

INGREDIENTS

10 egg whites
1 lb. castor sugar
1 lb. cashewnuts – chopped fine or grated coarsely
For the filling:
½ lb. icing sugar
12 oz. white butter, (saltless)
2 baking trays 9" x 9"
Butter or margarine to grease the trays
Grated cashew nuts, glace cherries and angelica to decorate
Few drops of almond essence

METHOD

Whisk nine egg whites till very stiff. Lightly fold the castor sugar and grated cashewnuts, being careful not to stir too much. Divide the mixture equally between the two greased baking trays and place in an oven preheated to 300°F. for about half an hour. The cake should not be allowed to turn more than the palest gold in colour and is done when a skewer inserted into it comes out clean.

Turn out onto wire trays and while still hot, slice lengthwise into two. Stack the four vertical slices one on top of the other, sandwiching them together with the filling.

FILLING:

Beat the butter till fluffy. Add icing sugar and continue beating. Add almond essence and then fold in one stiffly beaten egg white. Use to sandwich the four layers of cake together and to cover the top and sides of the Sans Rival. Decorate the top with grated cashewnuts glace cherries and angelica kept aside for the purpose.

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Tours & Travel

TRIVANDRUM-KUWAIT DIRECT FLIGHT SOON

The tourism and civil aviation minister, Mr. Purushotham Kaushik, said that a direct flight from Trivandrum to Kuwait would be introduced shortly.

Inaugurating the Kerala civil aviation general workers' cooperative society, Mr. Kaushik said that this would help in further increasing the traffic from Trivandrum to the Gulf countries.

He said it could be expected that Trivandrum would soon become a full-fledged international airport.

GOVT. OF INDIA TOURIST OFFICE OPEN OSAKA OFFICE

The Regional Director, India Tourist Office, announced the opening of Government of India Tourist Office in Osaka at the Air-India office on Midosuji Street, (Shoho Bldg. 1F., 4-28, Bingocho, Higashi-ku, Osaka Tel: 06-261-3549)

Mr. Alok Chowdhury

Mr. Alok Chowdhury has been appointed as Tourist Promotion Officer to be stationed at this office.

Mr. Chowdhury, 32, joined Department of Tourism as Information Assistant in October, 1970. He worked in the Govt. of India Tourist Office, New Delhi for two years till 1972, and then at the Calcutta Tourist Office for six years till he came to Japan in July 1978.

He was born in October 1945 in Calcutta, and obtained Master of Arts degree from Calcutta University with honors in Modern History in 1965. Mr. Chowdhury is married and has a daughter of one and a half years old.

INDIAN AIRLINES AND KASHMIR TOURISM

This summer saw an unprecedented rush of tourists (Indian and foreign) to Kashmir. From near 40,000 in 1954 the number of tourists visiting the Valley multiplied by 10 by last year. The number of foreigners among the tourists last year was 48,000; according to an estimate the number will go up to 80,000 by 1983. This is quite a boom, considering that in 1949, only 425 foreign tourists visited Kashmir. With winter sports at Gulmarg becoming more popular with home and foreign tourists, Kashmir is well set on the road to year-round tourism.

More than the rail-road transport, the Indian Airlines has played a big part in the increase of number of visitors – particularly the foreign tourists – to Kashmir. The number of passengers flown to Kashmir by the Indian Airlines rose from 68,600 in 1975-76 to 94,400 in 1977-78. That the Indian Airlines has carried up to 332 passengers from Delhi to Srinagar every day and could clear up to 2½ tons of cargo is no small credit. These figures will be multiplied when the airline lands the Airbus in Srinagar.

The Indian Airlines has registered a phenomenal growth in the last 6-7 years, with the induction of Boeing 737s in 1970 and Airbus in 1976. The I.A. has now a domestic route network of 50,737 km connecting 61 stations and carries 4½ million passengers and about 38,000 tonnes of freight per year. One-third of its passenger revenue is accounted for by tourists – the foreign exchange earnings having risen sharply from Rs. 110 million in 1973-74 to Rs. 400 million last year.

– Somnath Dhar

OBEROI APPOINTS VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr. R.M. Bhatia has been promoted chief executive of the Oberoi Imperial Hotel in Singapore and becomes vice-president of Oberoi Hotels International for South East Asia and the Pacific.

Mr. R.M. Bhatia

He was formerly financial controller of the Oberoi Imperial and a director of East India Hotels Ltd.

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MACKINNONS STARTS NEW INDIA COACH TOUR PROGRAMME

Mackinnons Travel Service, of India, has launched a new series of coach tours around the southern part of the country which are aimed at European group tourists.

Of 16 days' duration, the tours depart from Bombay (where two nights are spent) for Bangalore (two nights), Belur and Hassan (one night), Mysore (two nights), Ootacamund hill station (two nights), Cochin (one night), Kovalam Beach Resort (two nights), Madurai (one night) and Mahabalipuram (one night).

Rates for a group of 15 plus one extra passenger are US$480 per person, for a group of 20 plus one extra $444, for 25 plus one extra $422 and for 30 plus two extra $412. Single room supplement charge is $90.

The cost is inclusive of airport arrival and departure transfers, accommodation, all meals, coach transport and sightseeing.

Charges for room service, laundry, beverages and final airport departure tax are not included in the tour rate.

Mackinnons' Bombay-based tours sales manager Mr. E. Pereira said the coach tours would mean no more domestic flight reconfirmations for participants, no more early morning departures from hotels to airports, no late check-ins and no mislaid baggage at airports.

DOUBLE-DECKER TRAIN SERVICE STARTS

"It's terribly hot. The ventilation is poor." "The windows are so positioned that the air goes over our heads". "We need more fans." "Yes, and oscillating ones, too." "More water also. The tanks were empty by the time we reached Karjat."

These were some of the comments from passengers on the inaugural run of India's first double-decker train, the Sinhagad Express, from Bombay to Pune.

It was a memorable run with lakhs of people lined up along the route to cheer the coming of the double-decker era in train travel in the country, 125 years after the railway was introduced in India.

Said a jubilant passenger: "This train is the 'Man of the year'. It has been seen by more people and received a bigger ovation than any V.I.P."

"It is unprecedented," agreed engine driver William J.H. Dodd, a mail and express driver for 37 years. Mr Dodd had also operated the Gitanjali Express on its maiden run to Calcutta last November, besides several other V.I.P. trains in his career. "But this is perhaps the ultimate moment for me as an engine driver." He had to keep honking almost all the way to Thane to warn over jubilant watchers to keep at a safe distance.

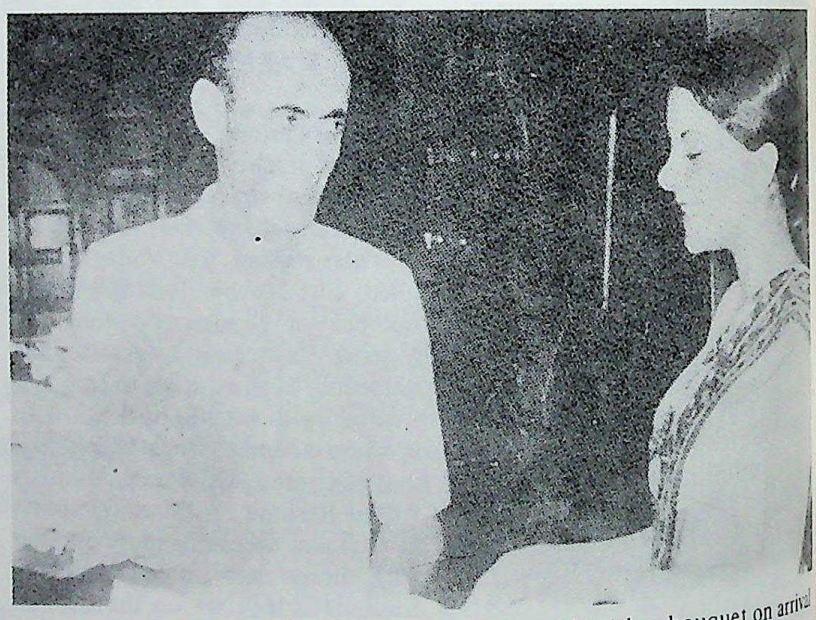
LANDING PERMIT FOR FOREIGN TOURISTS LIBERALISED

The landing permit facility which entitles the foreign tourists to visit India for 30 days without visa has been further liberalised.

Foreign tourists availing of this facility are now allowed to re-enter India from Maldives in the course of a continuous tour of India and neighbouring countries provided their round tour ticket covers Maldives and the total of the broken periods of their stay in India does not exceed 30 days.

The facility to re-enter India on a single landing permit is already extended to foreign tourists visiting Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Burma in the course of a continuous tour of India.

BUSINESS MAGNATE



HOTEL INVESTOR VISITS BOMBAY

Sheikh Abdulla Fouad, the Saudi Arabian business magnate who is a senior partner in the Oberoi-managed 186-room Hotel Dammam in Dammam, recently visited Bombay where he stayed at the Oberoi Sheraton.

He is pictured above being presented with a bouquet on arrival by the hotel's guest relations officer Ms. Farida Nariman.

A new hotel, to be called the Dammam Oberoi, is currently being constructed next to the Hotel Dammam and this will also be managed by Oberoi.

Sheikh Abdulla Fouad is also a senior partner in the new property which is due to open by the end of next year.

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From Filmland

PRIYALATA PAL

STAR RELATIONS IN FILM INDUSTRY

In an industry where a successful star or director or producer is able to secure a foothold for all his relations and friends, it is not surprising that anyone even with no particular talent to speak of stars have their brothers, sisters, brothers-in-law, uncles, nephews and cousins in favoured positions.

It is not at all surprising to find a star's brother as a director or as a producer, since the star himself will be footing the production costs of the film. Once a film is a hit, the director or the producer, who came in initially on the reflected glory of his star-relation, grows into his own position. If he has the talent and some luck he manages to stay on. If not, he is washed into the junk-yard of the film industry.

Some stars have failed to push in their relations into enviable positions, not for want of trying, but for utter lack of any spark of genius in the proteges.

It is the turn of two rising stars of the Hindi Screen to push their brothers as music directors now. Both heroines, they are in vantage positions today to "Suggest" to their producers that they take their brothers as music directors of the films in which they work.

One of the heroines has some talent running her veins, since she herself is the daughter of a one-time top actress of the Tamil Screen. The other emerged as a singing star and as a playback singer in Hindi films and has now come to stay as a heroine.

Their modus operandi is simple. When a producer comes to sign them up, they put it across to them that their brothers are good musicians and should be given a chance to score music in films. Then they play some takes of pre-recorded songs to them as the original compositions of their brothers, of the producers fall for this play, well and good. If not, later, when the film is half-way through there are other ways of exerting some pressure on them to ensure that the brothers are given a chance in the next productions of the producers – if there be any.

LOVE BIRDS

Rekha and Vinod Khanna in "Aap Ki Khatir".

GOOD ACTION IN "PHAANSI"

Producer – Director Harmesh Malhotra infests his "Phaansi" with life and action. Even if the story and the proceedings seem trite and familiar, it is the treatment of the director that makes all the difference to this film. The story by Ravi Kapoor is about the manner in which a dacoit is tamed and made to conform to standards of civilized society by a change of heart rather than the long arm of the law.

The film is full of familiar incidents, seen ever so many times in films of this nature. There is Tilak Singh, the dacoit, Raju a Police Officer, Himmat Singh, another dacoit who has reformed, Chhaya the village belle who loves Raju, Lala, the village money-lender, Abdul, the Childhood friend of Raju and Aruna Irani as a dancer.

The deft handling of Harmesh Malhotra makes the familiar characters weave out an unfamiliar angle to the story.

Shashi Kapoor hardly looks a tough character, but he manages to infest the role with some amount of credibility. Sulakshana Pandit as his beloved looks the village girl, even though she hardly brings about any touch of realism to her role. Pran as the messenger of peace puts across a polished performance. Ranjeet, Jeevan, Ram Mohan, Iftikhar, Urmila Bhatt, Sapru, Sudhir, Asrani and Aruna Irani are the stars of the film.

Music by Laxmikant Pyarelal lend no particular distinction to the film.

FILM SNIPPETS

Sanjay Dutt is the star of tomorrow. He is being groomed for it, by no less a person than his father-Sunil Dutt. Sunil is the right person for it, since he has had the distinction of launching some of the biggest stars of today – Vinod Khanna, Leena Chandavarkar, Amitabh Bachchan, Raakhee and others. At present, Sunil is putting his son through the paces – fencing,

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riding, boxing and everything that makes a man tough. Sanjay has now become a handsome young man, and soon a film will be launched in which both father and son will star.

* * * * * *

Manoj Kumar is on the lookout for an actress who has not appeared on the Hindi Screen so far, to do a big, prestigious role in his "Kranti". The role is that of the wife of Dilip Kumar, and mother to Manoj Kumar and Shatrughan Sinha. The range is fantastic and Manoj wants someone who can play the youthful wife of Dilip Kumar to the middle aged mother of the revolutionaries. The film had a 49-day non-stop shooting recently and Manoj has taken the rushes to the editing table. So far, the film has had 90 days of shooting and almost half the film is now complete. It has Hema Malini, Parveen Babi and Shashi Kapoor also in the principal roles.

* * * * * *

Ajai K. Lakhanpal, Executive Director, Novino Dry Cell Batteries Division of Lakhanpal Pvt. Ltd., has introduced a bright young new Ghazal Singer, Talat Aziz to music lovers of Bombay. The 22 year old Nawabzada from Hyderabad, has an excellent voice and given a little more training, is a potential "Ghazalnaawaz" of India. Schooled at Hyderabad, Talat Aziz passed his I.S.C. in 1973 and studied at the Indian Institute of Management and Commerce, Hyderabad from where he secured his B.Com(Hons.) degree in 1977. He has just returned from a nine month ghazal tour of the USA, Canada and U.K. He has also performed along with Mehdi Hassan.

* * * * * *

Raj Kapoor's "Satyam Shivam Sundaram" had its world premiere at Tashkent, where Raj Kapoor screened it at the International Film Festival. The entire Indian delegation came in for prolonged ovation by the delegates of world cinema who had gathered at the festival.

At the official reception at the Uzbek Studios, Raj Kapoor and Shashi Kapoor were mobbed by ambassadors, delegates and fans. At the reception, a visitor brought his seven year old son and told Raj Kapoor that he had decided to change his name to Raj Kapoor from that day.

* * * * * *

India's official entry at the Festival, Gulzar's "Kitaab" was also well received. The entire Indian delegation was called on the stage to receive a standing ovation following the screening of "Kitaab".

* * * * * *

B. R. Chopra is all agog with excitement at the prospects of releasing his latest film, "Pati Patni aur Woh". The excitement is caused by his under lying faith that never before has such a film been made in India. The basic theme of the film is that by nature a man is bigamous. This is brought out in brilliant comedy. It stands to the credit of Sanjeev Kumar that he acquits himself well in his first full-length comedy role.

MAAN JAO

Vidya Sinha and Sanjeev . . . Seven years of — aaaah, heavenly marriage enact a scene in "Pati Patni Aur Woh".

SANDWHICHED

Tina Munim flanked by Rajesh Khanna and Dimple at Shomu Mukerji's party.

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Chopra is now busy with his "Ghadi Ke Do Haath" with Hema Malini and Jeetendra.

* * * * * *

Parikshit Sahni is a linguist besides his immense talent in histrionics. He is well versed, in Russian, English, Hindi, Marathi, Punjabi and other languages. He is now keen on doing a film in Bengali. There have been some offers, but nothing has been finalised. His love for Bengali and admiration for Bengali Cinema stems from his father, Balraj Sahni and his mother Damayanti Sahni, both of whom were products of Shantiniketan. Parikshit is now busy doing a variety of films. His second Punjabi film "Uddeekan" is in the making, and he has with him Yash Chopra's "Kala Pathar" and other films like "Kasturi", "Wohi Baat", "Nawab Sahib", "Samaj Ka Kalang" and others. He has matured into a very confident actor these days and has recently barged into the B. R. Films camp.

COSY PARTING . . .

Nita Mehta and Vinod Khanna in "Main Tulsi Tere Aangan Ki", produced and directed by Raj Khosla.

FILMS IN THE MAKING

Mehmood has announced two new films, to start soon. They are "Khayalon Mein" and "Chief Minister". Both will be produced and directed by Mehmood under the banner of his Balaji Kala Mandir. He will play the title role in the second film and a principal role in the first one. Music will be provided by Bhappi Lahiri and the new duo of Basu and Manohari.

A. Salam picturised a fight sequence in a first class compartment of a train, for Zar's International's "Ghamand" recently with Ajit, Hercules and Vinod Khanna on the sets. Sulakshana Pandit, Bindu, Satish Kaul, Helen, Nazir Hussain, Sulochana and Keshto Mukherjee are in the cast. The film has music by Shankar Jaikishan.

Producer F.C. Mehra's latest film "Alibaba" — a co-production with Russia will start shooting at Tashkent where about one third of the film will be completed. The unit will then come to India to do further shooting. Raj Kapoor, Dharmendra, Hema Malini and Zeenat Aman play important roles in this film.

Asrani launched his "Salaam Memsaab" with location shooting at the Gateway of India. B.R. Chopra sounded the clapper board and Jaya Chakravarty switched on the camera. Asrani and Zarina Wahab faced the camera, along with Manju Bansal and Ranjeet. Rehman and Tom Alter play other important roles in the film, along with Ashok Kumar, Sanjeev Kumar and Rishi Kapoor who make guest appearances in the film.

R.D. Burman provides music for the five songs of the film.

Jeetendra and Hema Malini play the lead in Jaya Chakravarty's "Kasam Geeta Ki" to be directed by Ashok Roy. Rakesh Roshan and Bindiya Goswani have also been signed up for the film, which will have music by R.D. Burman.

Comedy sequences were shot for "Madine Ki Galiyan" by Meraj Ansari during a four day schedule. Johnny Walker and Mukri featured in the sequences, disguised as a saint and a fakir playing tricks on religious minded people. Some sequences were also shot on Hina Kausar, Shakti Kapoor, Urmila Bhatt and others.

Amitabh Bachchan sounded the clapper board and Parveen Babi switched on the camera as Raakesh Roshan and Zarina Wahab faced the camera for the film "Raees Damad" directed by Lekh Tandon. Vikram and Zaherra form the other romantic team. Aruna Irani, Shyama, Mukri, Paintal and Shakti Kapoor are others in the cast along with Mehmood, Jagdeep, Keshto Mukherjee and Prema Narayan. Music is provided by Bhappi Lahiri.

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Indians Abroad

KENYA

FRIENDLY MATCH

The rain-interrupted friendly match between Rajasthan Cricket club of India and a Gymkhana Invitational XI ended in an impressive, if expected, win for the tourists.

The home side batted first scoring 248 for 8 after being 39 for 4.

The tourists started their first innings at midday on the second day of the scheduled three-day match. Gaekwad fell to Rahesh for nought but all the following batsmen made runs helped by three misses by Rehman behind the stumps. Rajasthan cruised to 253 for 4 at which point they declared with a 5 run advantage.

The home side replied with 164 for 8 in their second innings before they made the third declaration of the match at 4.25 p.m. yesterday. This declaration left Rajasthan 25 minutes plus a minimum of 20 overs in the last hour to score 165 to win.

After 25 minutes the score was 36 for 1 and the tourists needed 129 in twenty overs. Then it became 99 in 16 overs. Kirmani and Gavaskar smashed Ramesh and Sunil for 34 and 28 respectively in eleven overs. Kirmani reached his 50 in 38 minutes, Drinks came and went and Shandy bowled Kirmani with his first ball.

The hundred came up in 47 minutes from a six to square leg by Gavaskar.

Gavaskar was run out by a neat piece of fielding by Bharat Shah on the long-on boundary; 60 required in 9 overs.

Pataudi and Vishwanath cooled the pace relying more on ones and twos. Pataudi played some effective shots not found in any book although the seldom seen draw shot eluded him.

Finally the match was wrapped up with one over in hand. For the visitors Kirmani was outstanding both behind and in front of the stumps.

For the home side the two youngsters, Bharat Shah and Hitesh Mehta, did enough to deserve selection in the next match.

FRIENDLY RELATIONS

The newly appointed Indian High Commissioner to Kenya Mr. A.N.D. Haksar has said that the

DISCUSSING CRICKET?

Indian High Commissioner to Kenya Mr. A.N.D. Haksar, (second left) hosted a reception in honour of India's top cricket stars in Nairobi, seen here on the right is Mr. Nawab of Pataudi, Indian cricket star and second from right is Mr. Sharad Rao of Attorney General's Chambers.

WHAT A FRIGHT!

Johnny Walker had to be carried in by 2 policemen at Nairobi's Kenyatta Conference Centre performance.

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cooperation between Kenya and India in different fields of economic and other activities should continue to increase the friendly relations that exist between the people of the two countries.

Mr. Haksar who toured Western Kenya recently, said in Kisumu, India admires Kenya's progress and development which have taken place since independence under the dynamic leadership of President Kenyatta.

He said, he was impressed and happy with the progress which he had seen in both rural urban areas of the country.

He said, the cooperation between Kenya and India was brought about by a number of industrial enterprises. Among the enterprises to be mentioned: Kisumu Cotton Mills, Webuye Paper Mills which is the largest single project to its kind in Kenya and a Woollen Textiles factory at Eldoret.

While in Kisumu, the High Commissioner toured Kisumu Cotton Mills (Kicomi) managed by Khataus and called on the Nyanza Provincial Commissioner and Kisumu Mayor.

He was entertained to a cocktail party at the New Kisumu Hotel which was attended by dignitaries including Nyanza Provincial Commissioner, Mr. Cheluget; his Deputy Mr. Akibaya; MP for Kisumu town, Mrs. Grace Onyango; MP for Kasipul/Kabondo Mr. Onyango Ayodo; MP for Mbita Mr. Alphonse Okuku; the High Court Judge, Kisumu Mr. Justice Cotran and Kisumu D.C. Mr. Ole Ncharo.

ACTION AGAINST AMIN

A new movement known as the three A's Action Against Amin, has grown in order to alert the world to the cruelties and barbaric deeds of the Military and Army personnel in Uganda.

The movement has no rules or by laws, no constitution and the purpose of the 3 A's is to be one of passively fighting for the overthrow of the Amin regime in Uganda. No fees are collected from sympathisers and there is no direct hatred against Amin as a human being. The onslaught is on the action of Amin's regime and the movement is convinced that with prayers and more prayers the regime will wipe itself to extinction.

While sounding very unrealistic and rather philosophical it is learnt that different Christian denominations and even Muslims and Hindus

ENJOYING COCKTAILS

To bid farewell to Mr. and Mrs. A.R. Pathak and to welcome Mr. and Mrs B.P.S. Kapoor, the Assistant High Commissioner for India a cocktail dinner was held by Mr. and Mrs. Kuldip Singh Suri, Prominent businessman of Mombasa. Left to right: Mrs. Mumtaz Madhvani, the famous film star and Mr. Mayur Madhvani, the New Assistant High Commissioner for India B.P.S. Kapoor, Kuldip Singh Suri, A.R. Pathak and Mrs. M.K.Suri.

AU REVOIR

The Indian Civil Aviation delegation is pictured at departure for Bombay at Nairobi Airport. From the left Mr. R.P. Naik, Secretary-Indian Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, Mr. Inder Sethi, Air India's Commercial Director, Mr. S. Ekambaram, the Deputy Secretary to Indian Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism and Mr. N.L. Mital Air India's Regional Director for Africa.

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WARM HANDSHAKE

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Peter Muigai Kenyatta, (second from right) is seen here being welcomed at Nairobi Airport by Mr. N.L. Mital (left) on his arrival from the Far East. Second from left is Mr. V.R.S. Mani, First Secretary, Indian High Commission, and on the extreme right is Mr. Wachira Waweru, MP for Parklands.

form a strong element of this new force bent on seeing in the shortest possible time the end of the rule of Amin in Uganda.

People of all nationalities and different political persuations form the movement and the general feeling is that since the Amin government took over control of Uganda from the deposed President Milton Obote over 300,000 Ugandans and other people in Uganda have been murdered, mutilated or simply described as having disappeared.

For continuing in prayers the special appeal is to the 22 Uganda Martyrs specially St. Charles Lwanga and the movements confident that prayers will conquer where more appeals and verbal international condemmnations of Amin have only brought more ruin to the local people and left the country in a state of instability where everybody not in the State Research Bureau or among Amin's select group of Nubians finds himself living in perpetual fear of arrest and death without trial.

None of the movement protagonist in London or cities in Africa were willing to disclose anything more in the untial development of the Action Against Amin campaign.

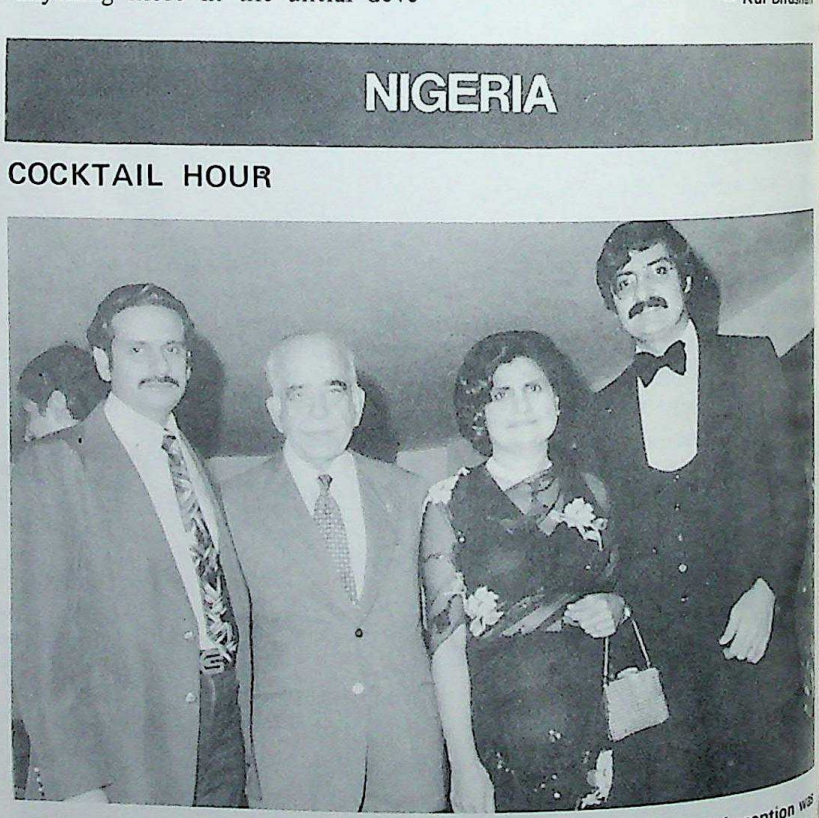
– Kul Bhushan

TO KEEP YOU WARM

In response to an appeal by the Kenya Red Cross Society, the Indian Red Cross have gifted one hundred thousand tablets Chloroquin and 500 pieces of blankets worth about Kenya shillings one hundred thousand. India's National Carrier, Air India, transported the consignment free of charge. The gift was presented by the Indian High Commissioner to Kenya, Mr. A. N. D. Haksar to Mr. John Mulei, Secretary-General of Kenya Red Cross Society recently at the High Commission offices.

NIGERIA

COCKTAIL HOUR



Bhai Manghanmal Udharam recently visited Lagos and a cocktail reception was held in his honour by K.A.J. Chotirmall group. Seen at the occasion are from left to right: Mr. S. B. Bhojwani, Bhai Manghanmal, Mrs. S. A. Bhojwani and Mr. R. A. Bhojwani.

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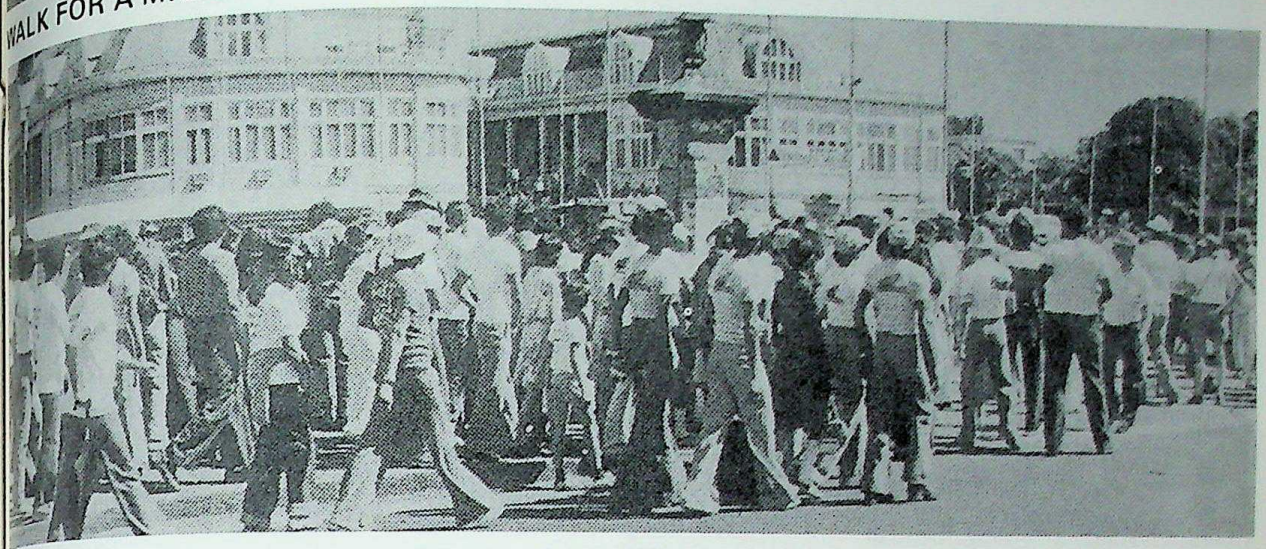
MAURITIUS

WALK FOR A MILLION



The Charity Walkers in front of the plaza, one of the numerous checking points.

NATIONAL CHARITY WALK

The First National Charity Walk of the Mauritius Round Table Association was held on July 30 with a great success both in organisation and participation. In fact it brought about Rs. 100,000 to the organisers. This money will be distributed among three charitable institutions of the island, notably Society for Aid to children Inoperable in Mauritius (SACIM), Association des Parents d'Enfants Inadaptes de L'ile Maurice (APEIM) and Cripples Welfare Association. Not less than a thousand people were present for the long march of 15 miles whose departure was given at Curepipe. But only 500 reached the Champ de Mars (destination point). Mr. Eric Quenette was the first to reach Port Louis having taken 2 hrs 55 mins to complete the march. Among the participants, we remarked manual workers, businessmen of all ages, members of Youth Federations, officials of MRT and students.

VISIT OF AN EMINENT SURGICAL PROFESSOR

An eminent surgical professor of India, Prof. Atma Prakash arrived on July 27 in Mauritius for a one-week visit during which he delivered speeches and conferences for members of the Medical Profession.

Professor Atma Prakash

Fifty years of age, Prof. Prakash is responsible for the Surgical department at All-India Institute of Medical Sciences of New Delhi. He detains the M.B.B.S. of the Faculty of Medicine of Lucknow, the F.R.C.S. of Royal College of Surgeons of Canada and the M.S. (Master of Surgery) of Lucknow.

Professor Prakash has 28 years of experience in the Medical Profession. He has made researches in many domains of Medicine and has contributed 128 articles to national and international papers.

In 1973, the Padma Shri, one of the highest distinctions of India and the B.C. Roy Award were given to Prof. Prakash for his contribution in Medicine and Researches.

During his stay, he met different Medical Practitioners and participated in Medical Conferences wherein he delivered the goods of Medicine to our local ones.

— Nasseem Ackbarally

CULTURAL PROGRAMME

A special cultural programme was held at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute in Port Louis to celebrate India's Independence Day. Present on the occasion were the Prime Minister of Mauritius, Cabinet Ministers, Chief Justice, Members of Parliament, members of diplomatic corps and other representatives of various organisations. Earlier in the morning, a flag hoisting ceremony was held at India House followed by the reading out of the President's message by the Indian High Commissioner Shri Kailash Chandra. The local television and radio broadcast a special message by the High Commissioner.

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ONE GREAT STEP BY VANITA

An attractive, slightly built BA graduate from the University of Bombay, has been allowed into South Africa with the blessings of the Nationalist Government after lengthy representations at the highest level.

She has entered the country as a "foreign bride", a category of person against whom a ban had been imposed by the government 25 years ago.

Mrs Vanita Naran has come to South Africa as the wife of Mr Dinkar Naran, a young Durban businessman. They were married in Bombay and a reception was given for the couple at the Sol Namara Hotel recently.

The colourful function, hosted by the groom's parents, Mr and Mrs Ramanbhai Naran, was attended by 350 guests including representatives from the regional office of the Department of Indian Affairs.

FOREIGN BRIDE

The fact that it was possible for her to be present at the function came about as a result of the recent relaxation of the ban. Since the beginning of the year the Department of the Interior has been considering scores of applications by South Africans who married overseas.

Already permission has been granted to more than 100 families to settle in the country.

In the case of the Narans however, Vanita has taken a bold new step which may be a ray of hope for others who may wish to marry abroad. She is the first bride to have been given the government's blessing by being allowed entry after the relaxation of the ban came into effect.

Hitherto, it was thought the government would only give consideration to applications from long-married couples with families and allow them in on humanitarian grounds.

Because of the ban many families had been split for lengthy periods and there was a great deal of anxiety and heart-break when South African Indians fell in love with citizens of countries abroad. Indians were the only community to be discriminated against through this legislation.

RESERVOIR HILLS WELCOMES SWAMI

The Arya Mithra Mundal, of Reservoir Hills, held a reception for the visiting swami from India, Swami Deekshanand Saraswathie, recently.

The Swami spoke at length on religious matters and cultural activities. He emphasised the need for instruction in the Hindi language, as well as other vernacular languages spoken by Indians in South Africa.

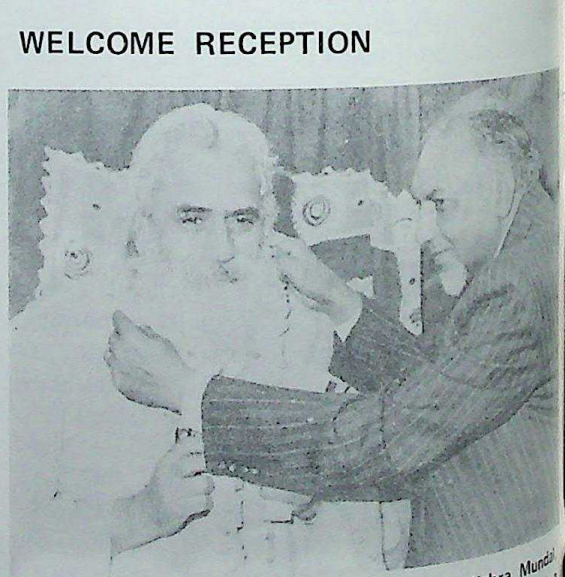
The welcome address was delivered by Mr H.R. Devduth, president of the mundal.

Mr Sookraj Chotai, president of the Arya Pratimidhi Sabha, congratulated the mundal for its organisation of parwarik functions at which the swami spoke and preached on religion.

The singing and performance of the yag by members of the mundal were further highlights of the function.

Mr Dinkar Naran and his bride from India Miss Vanita Kotecha, photographed after their marriage in Bombay.

WELCOME RECEPTION



Mr H.R. Devduth, chairman of the Arya Mithra Mundal, Reservoir Hills is seen garlanding Swami Deekshanand at a welcome reception accorded to the visiting Vedic missionary from India recently.

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VEDIC PRIESTS APPOINTED

Five Pietermaritzburg residents were among the six new Vedic priests ordained by Swami Deekshanand at the Vedic Temple, Northdale recently. The sixth was former Durban schoolteacher, Mrs V. Singh. The picture shows: (Back L to R) Pt. J.G. Bishoon, Pt. R. Baldeo and Pt. R. Chedie. (Front) Tandita Sunita Beharie, Pt S. Jugmohan Singh and Pt. R. Mohanchand. Pandit Jugmohan was priest — in — charge conducting the priesthood course.

SARI QUEEN

Mrs Mala Govind receives the Sydney Laird floating trophy from guest of honour Miss S. Walsh after winning the Natal sarie queen contest at the Himalaya Hotel. She also won a bedroom suite as part of her prize. Mrs Manju Singh was runner-up and Miss Jenny Singh was placed third.

DIL SE MILE DIL

Tensing who was named after the co-conquor of Everest, is seen above with his bride. He has made quite a conquest himself, we would say.

WEDDING BELLS

The marriage of Dr Tensing Singh to Miss Virbada (Vinoo) Padia took place at the Vedic Temple in Carlisle Street, Durban, on August 6.

The wedding ceremony, which was conducted by Pandit Nardev Vedalankar, was followed by a reception at the Himalaya Hotel where a large number of guests felicitated the newly-weds.

Tensing is the son of Mr and Mrs George Singh and Vinoo is the daughter of Mrs and the late Mr A. J. Padia.

FULL OF ADMIRATION

The Hindu Tamil State Indian School celebrated its golden jubilee at the Vedic Hall recently. Among the guests present was Mr J.N. Reddy who is seen admiring the work by scholars in the hobbies section of an exhibition to mark the occasion. Mr Reddy is being shown round by Mrs S.S. Thomas, the Afrikaans teacher at the school.

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SYRIA

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

Organised by the Ministry of Tourism, the Damascus flower show, small as it is, has become an important event in the Damascus calendar of events. A number of countries take part in it every year, apart from a very large number of Syrian nurseries and organisations.

The flower show was held this year from 25 to 31 May 1978 and after a gap of some years, the Indian stall formed a prominent exhibit of the show. Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of our participation was the fact that it was done without the advantage of Indian flowers which could not be sent to Damascus in time for the show because of various problems. Nothing daunted, Mrs. Usha Venkateswaran, the wife of the Indian Ambassador to Syria and a group of ladies of the Indian community got together and with a combination of equal parts of artistic skill and ingenious improvisation, created an exhibition of typically Indian flower arrangements, including Rangoli, which became the talk of the flower show from the opening day itself.

INDIA DAY AT THE DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL FAIR

Probably the most important annual event in Damascus is the Damascus International Fair in a big way. The Indian pavilion showed a panorama of various aspects of India, apart from the exhibition of a wide range of goods ranging from exquisite handicrafts to heavy duty machinery. The Regional Office of Tourism in Kuwait put up a stall within the pavilion which provided a continuous show of Indian touristic films and slides.

As part of the overall activity generated by our participation, an Indian Cultural Evening was organised at the Meridien Hotel in Damascus. The major attraction of this Evening was a Bharat Natyam performance by Miss Kiran Segal, one of the best of our younger artistes. The Syrian Minister of Culture, Dr. (Mrs.) Najah Al-Attar was the chief guest at this function which was attended by a distinguished audience of senior dignitaries in the Syrian Government as well as the leading lights of Syria.

CREATIVE HANDS

Charming ladies create an exhibit for the Sixth International Exhibition of flowers and ornamental plants.

PLEASURE INDEED!

The Prime Minister of Syria, Mr. Mohammed Ali Al-Halabi, on India Day at the Silver Jubilee of the Damascus International Fair.

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society.

On the 22nd of July which was India Day of the Silver Jubilee of the Fair, a reception was organised in the Indian pavilion itself. Shri Aref Baig, our Minister of State for Commerce who was visiting Damascus at the invitation of the Syrian Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade, Dr. Mohamad al-Imadi, attended the function. To add a touch of variety and glamour, a costume parade of Indian traditional costumes as well as Western dresses made from Indian textiles proved to be very popular.

PAYAL KI JHANKAR

Miss Kiran Segal in action.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

In Damascus, the Syrian Television presented a special programme on India highlighting the progress recorded by this country in various fields. In the morning a special function was held in the Embassy premises when the Indian Ambassador, Mr. A.P. Venkateshwaran, unfurled the national flag and read out the President's message to a large gathering of the local Indian community.

THAILAND

SERIOUS DISCUSSION

To mark the opening ceremony of the new Tourist Office of India a cocktail reception was held at the Oriental Hotel. The Indian Ambassador Mr. K. L. Dalal delivered an address emphasising the close relations between Thailand and India. Director General of Tourist Organization of Thailand Col. Somchai Hiranyakit and his Deputy Mr. Thamnoon were among the honoured guests. Pictured at the occasion are from left: Ambassador K. L. Dalal, Mrs. Vibha Pandi – Regional director of the Govt. of India Tourist Board in Japan and the Far East, Mr. G. J. Kamle, head of the Bangkok Office and Deputy Director of TOT, Mr. Thamnoon Prachuabmoh.

INAUGURATION

Mrs. Pushpa Dalal, wife of the Indian Ambassador inaugurates the Government of India Tourist Office by lighting the Deepak.

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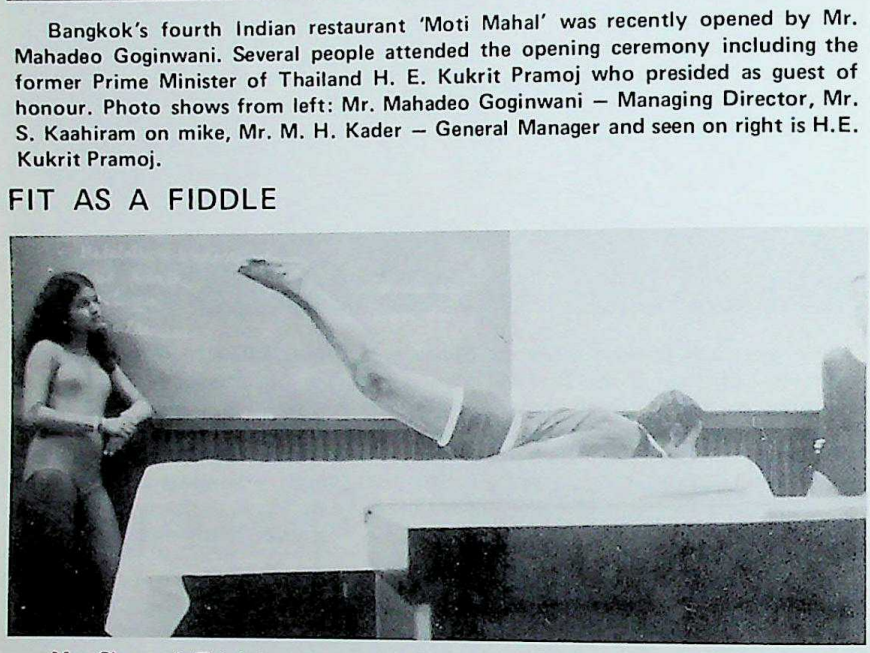
NEWLY OPENED

Bangkok's fourth Indian restaurant 'Moti Mahal' was recently opened by Mr. Mahadeo Goginwani. Several people attended the opening ceremony including the former Prime Minister of Thailand H. E. Kukrit Pramoj who presided as guest of honour. Photo shows from left: Mr. Mahadeo Goginwani – Managing Director, Mr. S. Kaahiram on mike, Mr. M. H. Kader – General Manager and seen on right is H.E. Kukrit Pramoj.

FIT AS A FIDDLE



Mr. Shyamal Talukdar, a student of Ghosh College of Physical Education – Calcutta alongwith his wife have been giving Yoga lessons here to more than 200 students for the past two years. Their success in Yoga is tremendous and their mode of teaching – simple and easy. Mr. Talukdar is pictured demonstrating a posture to a student.

HIGHER & HIGHER

Learning Yoga the easy way. Mr. Talukdar seen during his lessons as his wife looks on.

Photos: Prem Saran

BULGARIA

INDIAN CULTURAL TROUPE VISITS BULGARIA

An Indian cultural troupe visi here to participate in the I national Festival of Music and D held at the Black Sea resor Bourgas. The visit was sponsored the Department of Culture.

The troupe, which inclu noted Indian Kathak and Bh Natyam dancers and a group fr the Natya Ballet Centre of N Delhi, presented a special dance a music ensemble in Sofia before capacity audience. Among th present were Cabinet Ministe high officials and party dignitari members of the diplomatic cor and the Indian Ambassador, M H.S. Desai.

During their stay in Bulgaria, th troupe gave three more perfo mances in addition to its partici tion in the International Festival

EGYPT

CELEBRATIONS

Independence Day was celebrat at a function held in the Chancer premises in Cairo. After unfurlin the national flag and the singing o the national anthem, the Indian Ambassador, Mr A.S. Chib read out the President's message, child o the Indian school sang several national and patriotic songs.

Speaking at the function, M Chib talked of the several achie ments in the technological an scientific fields made by India a her record performance in agricu ture. He also highlighted th blossoming forth of India's relation with Egypt as manifested in th proved trade relations, grea cultural exchanges and co cooperation in the fields of ec and agriculture between the countries.

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SUPPORT THE RED CROSS

During the fasting month of Ramadhan, the Indonesian Red Cross Society appealed for extra blood donation as the supply of blood in this month slows down.

The Gandhi Memorial International School and Sri Sathya Sai Centre, Jakarta, jointly sponsored a blood donation campaign and over 200 Indian nationals assembled at the Gandhi Memorial International School to donate blood. This is the fifth time that such blood donation has been organised. It was a fitting way to celebrate Indian and Indonesian Independence Days which fall on 15th and 17th August respectively.

— Sangeeta Ram

SAVING A LIFE

Seen in the picture above, among others, on the first bed, is Mrs. Maya V. Ram, wife of the Principal of the Gandhi Memorial International School, donating blood.

DANNY TURNS 1

Mr. & Mrs. Suresh Raghani celebrated the first birthday of their son Danny at their residence on 8th July 1978. Seen in the picture are the proud parents with little Danny.

GRANDMA'S PROUD POSSESSION

Mr. & Mrs. Roop Gurbani also had a new arrival on 17th August 1978 — a baby boy named Tarun. Tarun is seen here with happy parents, grand parents and sister.

EARLY ATTEMPT

Mr. & Mrs. Bhagwani D. Lakhwani were blessed with a baby boy, Vicky, on the 14th August 1978. The proud grandfather, Mr. Dialdas, is seen here whispering the name of the boy in his ear.

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TAMIL TRIBUTE GLOWING LEADER'S TO PAP GOVT

Speaking at a National Day print celebration dinner held at the Singapore Tamilian Association premises in Woodsville Close to mark the 13th anniversary of the attainment of the Republic's paid Independence, the Association's President Mr. S.A. Durai paid glowing tribute to the People's Action Party (PAP) Government for its fair and impartial treatment of the minorities like the Indians in the Republic. He also pledged the undivided loyalty and dedication to Singapore of the Tamils who constitute the large bulk of the local Indian population. As a whole, the Indian community's contribution to the Republic's National Day celebration was, as in the past, quite in keeping with its size and resources. The Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce, as usual, joined its sister chambers in putting up a colourful and impressive float depicting the island State's magnificent progress in economy and development. Indians also contributed to the cultural items which constituted one of the highlights of the official celebration held on August 9 on the spacious *padang* in front of the City Hall.

MAMMOTH PARADE

President Sheares took the salute at the mammoth parade and march-past in which some 17,000 uniformed personnel and civilians, students and workers, took part. Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and his Cabinet colleagues and other Members of Parliament as well as members of the diplomatic corps and community leaders watched the grand display from the City Hall steps. The various contingents

Mr. S.A. Durai

and floats later went along the main streets in the city and suburbs, watched by dense crowds.

"WE'RE IN GOOD SHAPE" – P.M.

The Prime Minister in his annual eve of National Day message broadcast over radio and television, assured that "We are in good shape for the next three to five years." To remain in good shape for the next five to 10 years, Singapore must ensure that excellence gets to the top as ministers and administrators. Beginning his address on a bright note, Mr. Lee reported to the nation

Mr. Lee Kuan Yew

that for the first half of this year Singapore's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew at an annual rate of eight per cent. "Five years after the oil crisis, we have made our adjustments and found a new balance," he said. He believes that barring major setbacks like another international economic crisis Singapore can make two to three per cent more growth than the average for the OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) countries.

Explaining the economic progress of Singapore under his party's continuous rule for the past 20 years, Mr. Lee said the achievements of Singaporeans, as a people, were considerable, learning and working the hard way. Singapore's per capita GDP at constant prices had increased from S$1,200 in 1960 to S$6,500 in 1977, more than five times in 17 years. While it was true that over 20 per cent of the contribution was due to expatriate managers and professionals, that still left 1977 with four times the 1960 per capita GDP. "We have rebuilt Singapore," he asserted proudly. "We are the owners of this new Singapore – something we never were 20 years ago. Then we were squatters – nearly all of us. We have become a more tolerant and a more integrated society. We have got out of our communal, clan, dialect and religious ghettos to share our lives in our new towns," he said.

TASK NOW IS TO ENSURE THE FUTURE

The task now is to ensure continuity, the Prime Minister went on to say. "If the best, if the men with ability, integrity and principles do not take charge and, by default, the mediocre or worse, the opportunists are left in control, the political and economic system will falter, the

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said," he warned, and added: "Able men and women, however, intelligent, well-educated and gifted, have to be tested, trained and tempered in the hard school of experience. Those with conviction and strength of character must rapidly take over the responsibilities of high office. We are in good shape for the next three to five years. To remain in good shape for the next five to 10 years, to secure the future, we must ensure that excellence gets to the top as ministers and administrators."

MR. DURAI ON INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO S.E. ASIA

The Tamilian Association's dinner was held on the eve of National Day, with the Member of Parliament for the area, Mr. Ivan Baptist as the guest-of-honour. Mr. Durai in his address said the National Day was as sacred and memorable to Indians in general and Tamils in particular as to any other community in the Republic. He said: "As every student of history knows, our association with this region began, not just with the arrival of Raffles in these parts or his founding this city as a trading port for the British, but long, long before that – in fact, thousands of years ago. We had in the past given freely to this region – in language, religion, philosophy, culture, arts and state craft. Our contribution to the growth and development of Singapore in particular has been second to none, but with all that, we have not materially prospered to the extent that the others have. But we have no regrets. For, under our Government we are treated with complete equality and fair play – in education, in housing, in employment – things that materially affect a human being, and of which minority groups in other countries in the world must be really envious."

Mr. Durai then extended, on behalf of the members of the Association in particular and Tamils of Singapore in general their sincerest thanks and warmest felicitations to the Government for its impartiality, fairness, and incorruptibility, honesty and dynamism, and for building up our Republic into one of the cleanest, healthiest, and most progressive states in the world." The Government by its pragmatic and courageous policies had succeeded in providing the people of Singapore with the highest living standard in this region, and the second highest in Asia, next only to Japan, he said and added: "May our Republic continue to progress in the same fashion from year to year, with political stability, economic prosperity and inter-racial amity and harmony and thereby continue to shine as a glorious example of an industrious and hard-working people to humanity all over the world. We on our part pledge our undivided loyalty and dedication to Singapore."

NO COMMUNALISM SAYS MIC LEADER

Meanwhile, in Kuala Lumpur, the Vice-President of the Malaysian Indian Congress (MIC), Tan Sri S.O.K. Ubaidulla has said that no Indian candidate in the recent general elections could have won if the people had voted on communal lines. Although there were places where Indian votes were decisive, he told a Press conference, that "nowhere was there a constituency where an Indian candidate could win on Indian votes alone." He said MIC candidates received satisfying support from the United Malays' National Organisation (UMNO) and its Wanita (Women) and Youth wings. The Malaysian Chinese Association's (MCA's) support, he added, was similarly excellent although "it could have been improved in some places." (UMNO, MCA and MIC respectively representing the major races in Malaysia namely Malays, Chinese, and Indians, are the principal partners of the ruling National Front.) As for Indian voters, he said, they were solidly behind the UMNO and MCA candidates.

Tan Sri Ubaidulla *(Tan Sri* is a honorific title conferred by Malaysia's Paramount Ruler and is equivalent to a British Knighthood) attributed the National Front's victory to the fact that it had an "excellent" election machinery. "The National Front candidates were men and women of calibre, capable of looking after their constituencies and working for the betterment of the country." He said the people chose the National Front because they had faith in its ability to provide a stable Government. Commenting on the ban on public rallies during the elections he said winning votes through the "personal touch" was better than appearing impressive through "eloquence and haranguing."

M$9M INCOME TAX CASE

In Penang, on July 5, Mr. Justice Fred Arulanandom reserved judgement on an application by the government to dismiss an action by multi-millionaire landowner Mr. N.T.S. Arumugam Pillai who had asked for a declaration that the Director-General of Inland Revenue had no power to impose penalties for Mr. Pillai's failure to pay over M$9,962,000 income tax. Senior Federal Counsel Mr. Zulkifli Mahmood, for the government, submitted that Mr. Pillai's statement of claim should be struck out as it disclosed no reasonable cause of action, was frivolous and vexatious and an abuse of the process of the court.

Mr. Pillai had appealed to the Privy Council against income tax assessments totalling M$9,952,199. Meanwhile, the Director-General of Inland Revenue imposed penalties on Mr. Pillai for failure to pay the sum. Mr. Pillai then applied to the High Court for a declaration that the director-general had no power to impose the penalties until such time as the appeal to the Privy Council had been disposed off. The government applied that Mr. Pillai's application be dismissed with costs.

– G.S. Muthukrishnan

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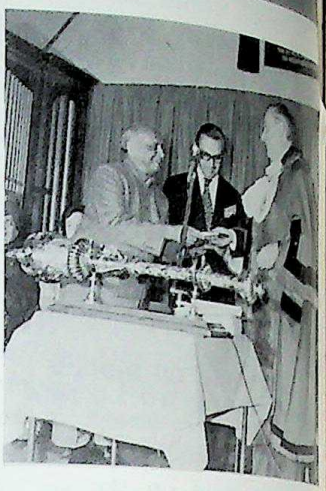
INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

1

1. Indian Independence Day was celebrated at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan on 12th August, 1978 in presence of the Mayor of Borough of Hammersmith, Councillor J. Smith 2nd from right, leader of the council on right. H.E. Sri N.G. Goray, High Commissioner for India on mike seen delivering his message, the chairman Sri M.A.S. Dalal who welcomed the distinguished guests, is seen 2nd from left.

2



3

2. At Indian Independence day Sri N.G. Goray is seen making presentation of Silver Jubilee Number of Bhavan's Journal to the Mayor.

3. Sitar recital at Bhavan on Independence Day.

4

4. Tablas and many other items of cultural interest were presented on Indian Independence Day celebrations at the Institute of Indian Culture.

5

5. Two talented artists rendering Punjabi folk songs on Independence Day at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan.

6. Folk dance from Bengal and group singers from various parts of India.

6

7

7 Folk dance from Gujarat.

8 Part of large audience who witnessed the above items at Indian Independence Day celebrations organised by India League of London.

8

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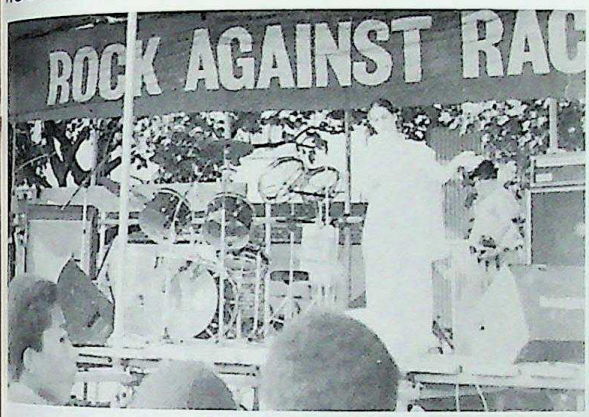
RAKSHA BANDHAN

Brahma Kumari Organisation performed 'Raksha Bandhan' on stage by typing a tuft of coloured silken thread to the wrists of an Asian from Brent Indian Organisation and an organiser of Rock Festival at a multi cultural show generally classified as 'Rock Against Racism'.

ROCKING AWAY

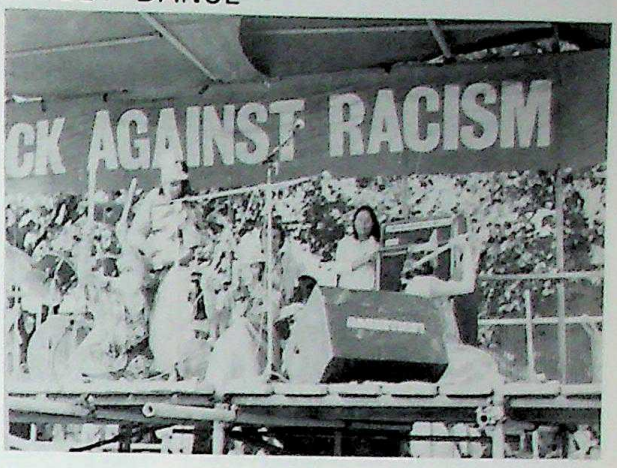


Brahma Kumari Organisation besides tying silken threads to symbolise the bonds between brother and sister also rendered songs and a dance duet by their female members.

MEMORABLE EVENT

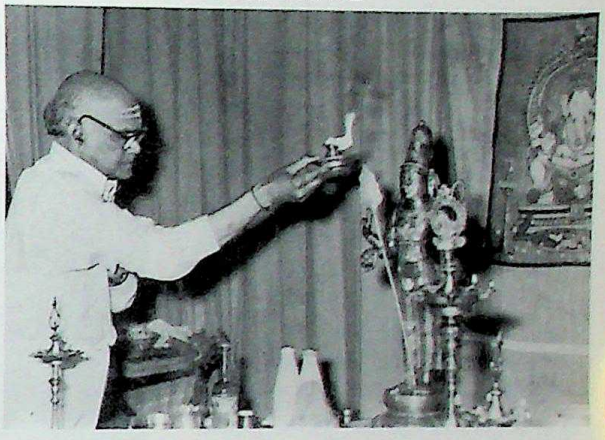
19th July was the most important day in the history of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan when it opened its own European Head Quarters in London. It was inaugurated by Mr. James Callaghan, the British Prime Minister in presence of many distinguished people. To mark the opening he unfurled the curtains of a plaque seen on left side of wall flanked by Indian National and British Flags. Lord Mount batten, Patron in Chief is seen on extreme left.

LIVELY DANCE



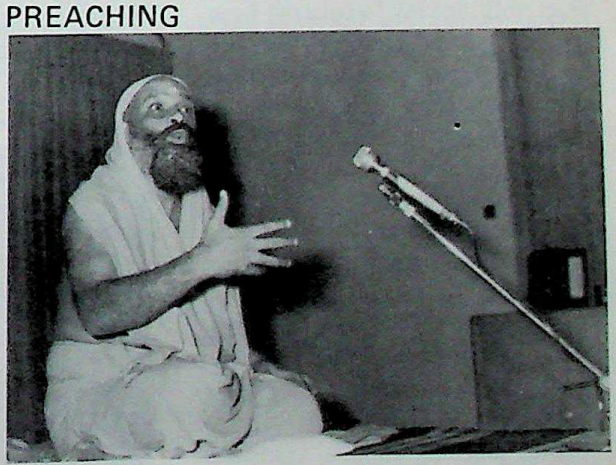
Brent Indian Association presented Indian Folk Dances to lively pre-recorded folk music.

SERVICE OF THE LORD



Every Friday a special prayer ceremony is held by the Murugan temple Trust which is embarking on a giant project to establish a full fledged traditional temple in London. Here Sabhapati Pillai is seen conducting the traditional South Indian temple prayers to Lord Muruga.

PREACHING



Swami Dayananda Sarasvati delivered a series of three lectures from 5th to 7th August on Indian Philosophy. This was Swami Dayananda's first lecture in U.K. and it was Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's inaugural lecture at it's own recently acquired premises in the British Isles.

Photos: C. Govind.

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INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATED IN HAWAII WITH OFFICIAL TOUCH

August 15th saw celebration in Hawaii of India's Independence Day with something of an added official touch. In addition to annual flag-raising ceremonies held at the East-West Center and taken part in by Hawaii's Indian community, a reading by proxy of an official Independence Day Message was delivered by Mr. Dronamraju SriRamakrishna, President of the EWC India Participants Association. The message, hand-delivered in person a few days prior, was from India's Consul General in San Francisco, Shri Lakhan L. Mehrotra, who had recently paid a call to Hawaii. Stemming from his pre-Independence Day visit, whereby he had to depart in the time to preside over the official observance in San Francisco, the Consul General left behind an official copy of his message to be read and made a part of the Independence Day celebration observed in Hawaii. The message itself called for a unified approach seeing the strides and inroads arrived at since India's 'trust with destiny,' as quoted from Nehru, concluding that 'On this day when we celebrate India's independence, let us resolve to pull our resources together and work for our common weal.'

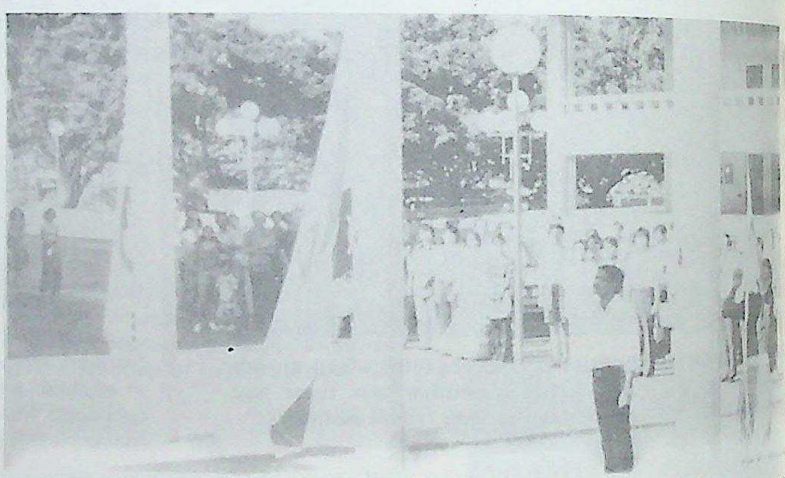
Mr. SriRamakrishna, having read the Consul General's Message, was assisted in the respective hoistings of the flags of India and the U.S. by Mrs. Yeshoda Devaiah, recently arrived from India and wife of EWC Grantee and doctoral candidate, Mr. Muruvanda Devaiah.

The morning event, complete with Indian refreshments, was followed in the evening with a program of documentary films depicting India's struggles toward independence, its freedom fighters,

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE!

Reading to onlookers the official Independence Day Message of San Francisco Consul General at EWC in Hawaii is Mr. Dronamraju SriRamakrishna (extreme right) President of the EWC India Participants Assn.

FLAG HOISTING



Mrs. Yeshoda Devaiah begins the flag-hoisting in Independence Day observance at the East-West Center in Honolulu. About to hoist the banner of India is Mr. D. Sri Ramakrishna, center.

TWO PATRIOTS

Mrs. Yeshoda Devaiah, left, and Mr. D. Sri Ramakrishna, right, following flag raising ceremonies on Independence Day in Hawaii.

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...nd its patriarch of non-violence, ...ohandas K. Gandhi.

DRAMA DIRECTOR TOURS U.S.

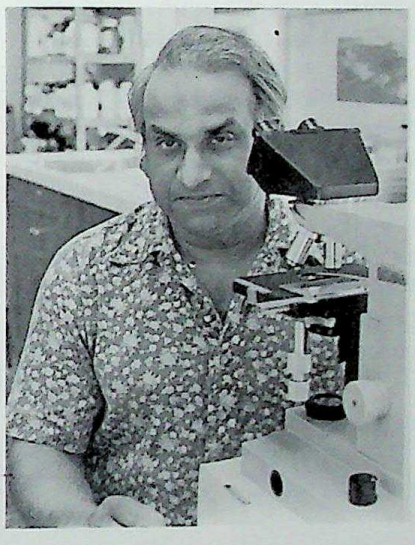
Touring the U.S. recently was ...r. B. V. Karanth, Director of ...dia's National School of Drama. ...urneying from New Delhi to ...shington, D.C. on an official ...ltural exchange tour, the well-...own veteran of India's stage and ...reen passed through such key ...ties as New York, Minneapolis, ...os Angeles, San Francisco, and ...nolulu, observing the American ...ene of theatrics with keen interest ...l along the way. A recognized ...ama scholar, Karanth is highly ...garded as an innovative practi-...ner, as well, in his multiple roles ...s playwright, producer, director, ...d film maker, particularly in the ...alm of Kannada-language dramati-...ions of recent vintage. He has ...elded a guiding hand in the ...ccess of such award-winning ...assics as Chomana Dudi, among ...her film achievements.

Concluding his month-long U.S. ...ur with a short island stay in ...awaii, Karanth also called in at ...kyo, Japan briefly before return-...g to New Delhi and the resump-...n of his directorship at the ...tional School of Drama.

INDIAN RESEARCHER SIDDIQUI SHARES FINDINGS

Paying an invited call on Nairobi, ...enya recently was Dr. Wasim A. ...ddiqui, the celebrated University ...f Hawaii tropical medicine profes-...r heralded for his important re-...arch inroads in malaria control. ...a constant demand to share his ...put at medical conferences around ...e world, Dr. Siddiqui was asked ...discuss his findings at the August ...31 symposium of the Interna-...nal Diseases Center in Nairobi. ...arlier last year the World Health ...rganization joined in announcing ...one of the most major medical ...scoveries of the decade the success of Dr. Siddiqui's vaccine as an immunization against deadly malaria parasites. He was hailed the world over, and even officially by the U.S. State Department and the State of Hawaii itself. His medical and scientific colleagues around the world, which extend to his alma mater at Aligarh Muslim University in Uttar Pradesh, continue to hail his ongoing research achievements as he steadily pursues his meaningful course. A conclusive one hundred percent success rate has been maintained in the vaccine's use on laboratory animals from inception. (These are not, it must be noted, the controversial Rhesus monkeys from India lately in the news but the Aotus owl monkey species from South America, a less endangered variety and of closer proximity to human makeup.)

ANSWERS ALL



Dr. Wasim A. Siddiqui, Professor of Tropical Medicine, at the University of Hawaii Medical School.

On returning from Kenya to his University of Hawaii Medical School lab, now sanctioned to be a WHO-funded disease research center, Dr. Siddiqui is preparing a sabbatical return to India, where he will collaborate his present research pursuits with Indian counterparts in related specialties.

– Carolyn Sharma

GROUP PLANS CENTER AS FOCUS OF UNITY MOVE

Both Prime Minister Morarji Desai and External Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, during the course of their speeches at the New York Hilton Hotel last June, exhorted Indians in America to shed community labels and style themselves simply as Indians.

The India Cultural Society of New Jersey – itself a synthesis of two erstwhile associations, the Hindu Cultural Society and the India Cultural Club – has decided to set up a Gandhi Center as a meeting ground for "all Indians."

The proposed center will have an auditorium, a reception hall, some large rooms and a kitchen.

According to Arjan Hingorani, president of the society, and Rajendra Shukla, vice chairman, they have set a deadline of May 1980 for bringing the center into operation. To meet this deadline, they need to collect $50,000 by May next year, which is about half the cost of the center. So far, they have collected over $16,000, of which $7,000 is in cash and $9,000 in pledges.

As a token of its resolution to pursue this goal seriously, the society has decided to return all contributions in case it finds at any stage that the time-bound targets are impossible to achieve. The society would prefer to retain its credibility with the contributors rather than their contributions, Shukla said.

Three other workhorses of the society, Batuk Viradia, Chhotu Patel and Durgesh Mehta, enthusiastically underscored the chief objective of the Gandhi Center: Initiation of a movement to integrate the cultural activities of Indians by involving as many other organizations as possible in a common effort.

Patel said the India Gultural Society's cultural programs are already attracting Indian audiences in large numbers, even from other

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states in the U.S. Last year, for instance, nearly 4,000 people attended the Navratri festival held by the Society in Passaic, N.J.

LOVE'S LABOR

For Hingorani, Shukla, Viradia, Patel and Mehta, all this is a labor of love. They are not concerned with what they are spending personally, but with what they want to achieve. And they are convinced that it will be possible only with the forthright help and generosity of their compatriots. Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to the India Cultural Society at P.O. Box 476, 129 Gregory Avenue, Passaic, N.J. 07055 and Rajendra Shukla, Girdhar Viradia and Chhotu Patel are available for further information respectively at (201) 464-3289, 385-8028 and 751-5849.

— Amrit Kakaria

GROUP BACKS CAREY RE-ELECTION, HAILS STAND ON DEATH PENALTY

A group of Indian-Americans backing the re-election of Governor Hugh Carey of New York has hailed his stand against capital punishment as in accordance with Gandhian principles.

The Committee of Indian-Americans for Carey-Cuomo said in a press release that it had based its support of the governor and his running mate for lieutenant-governor, Mario Cuomo, on Carey's "impressive overall stewardship of the state" as well as his stand against the death penalty, which they said agreed with the Gandhian principle of non-violence.

In accepting the endorsement Carey acknowledged the contributions made by Indian-Americans in various fields and pledged to help the Indian community in its quest to assimilate in the American mainstream.

Members of the Indian group which met President Carter,

Meanwhile, in a reception to Asian-American business and community leaders on August 1 President Carter welcomed their participation in political affairs.

The guests, including several Indians led by National Finance Council (NFC) member Dr Manoranjan Dutta, belonged to the Democratic National Committee, the NFC and the President's Council. During their two-day stay in Washington they were briefed by presidential aides on issues of concern to Asian-Americans.

FRIENDS OF INDIA SOCIETY MEET IN NEW YORK

The Friends of India Society International, an organization set up during the emergency in U.K. to work for the restoration of democracy and civil liberties, held its third international Conference in New York on August 5 and 6. Senator D.P. Moynihan, former U.S. Ambassador to India inaugurated it.

The conference covered a wide agenda including concerns and aspirations of the people of Indian origin, role of Indians overseas in the development of India and social, economic and political policy of India. Among those who addressed the conference were the Indian Ambassador, Shri Palkhivala, Shri Nanaji Deshmukh, Shri Subramaniam Swamy, Rajmata Scindia and Makarand Desai.

Prime Minister Morarji Desai, Mr Jayaprakash Narayan and the Minister of External Affairs, Mr A.B. Vajpayee sent special messages on the occasion.

RADIO BROADCAST OF GITA SONGS

The Maharashtra Mandal, New York, will present a musical adaptation of the Bhagvad Gita on Columbia University's WKCR 89.9 FM radio station.

The adaptation will comprise 1... "Bhavgeets" or songs, accompanied by a short commentary, says a news release.

The program is directed by Vijay Pathare, who produced the first Indian language LP "Parampara" in the U.S. last year. Pathare also wrote the words and the music for "Bhavgeet" which will feature singers Gopal Marathe, Madhu Bhakti and Avinash Despande, and commentator Usha Shirali.

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INDIA CLUB, NEWCASTLE

The Annual General Meeting of the India Club, Newcastle was held recently and the following Office bearers were elected: President: Dr. Bhupinder Goel, Vice-President: Mr. Rajwant Khaira, Secretary/ Treasurer: Mr. Asit Mukherjee, Joint Secretary: Mr. Rex Changer, Lady Secretary: Mrs. Kum kum Goel, Joint Treasurer: Mrs. Asha Bagga, Members – Dr. Don Wright, Mrs. Gourama Kaushik.

Ladies Committee: Mrs. Ranjana Mehta, Mrs. Jayashree Dave, Mrs. Vridula Patel, Mrs. Shirley Horne.

The Club has planned many functions for the current year.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mrs. Khorshed S. Bamji, has recently taken over as the new Regional Director, Australia and South-East Asia, of the Government of India Tourist Office, Sydney.

Mrs. Bamji (pictured) has been director of the tourist offices in Bombay and Calcutta and had two postings in Paris and one in Toronto.

Her most recent position in her 25 years with the Indian Department of Tourism was in Delhi in the wild life conservation division.

Mrs. Bamji succeeds Mr. Hemant S. Gupte (pictured) who returned after three years in Australia to become a deputy Director-General of the Department in Delhi.

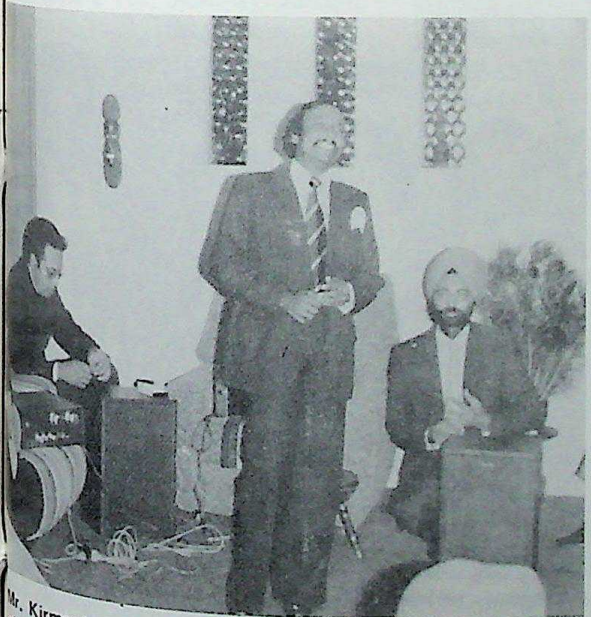
Mr. Raghubir Singh is succeeding Mr. I.C. Khanna, who spent five years as Assistant Director in Sydney.

Mr. K.N. Saha is to be the first Director, Government of India Tourist Office, Perth.

Mrs. K.S. Bamji

Mr. Hemant Gupte

TALENTED WICKET KEEPER



Mr. Kirmani, The Indian Wicket-Keeper, displaying another of his talents – this time a Hindi song at the reception organised by Indian Consular-General Mr. V.P. Singh.

MR VARUGHESE GOES ON FAST

Mr. Pazhavarickal George Varughese an Indian Lecturer at the Sydney Teachers' College recently

ARDENT ADMIRERS

Mr. Umrigar (right) and his two more admirers, Capt. Kohli and Mrs. Mookhey at Mr. Singh's reception.

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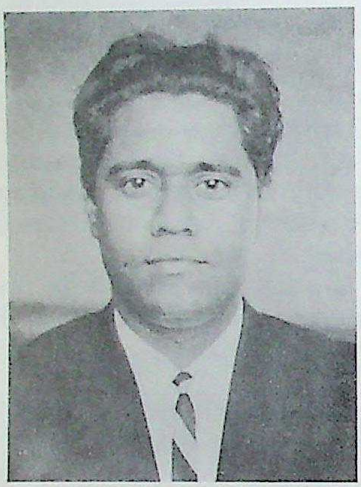
undertook a fast to raise money for helping the three million victims of recent cyclone disaster in Andhra Pradesh and surrounding states of Southern India.

Deeply saddened at this natural calamity which claimed more than 30,000 lives, Mr. Varughese decided to demonstrate his concern in a positive way by fasting at the steps of General Post Office, Sydney. He fasted on the two weekends immediately prior to the 1977 Christmas for a total of 60 hours. Unfortunately in the course of fasting, Mr. Varughese contracted diarrhoea and also lost 5 pounds!



Mr. Varughese raised AS1130.42 for which amount a bank cheque was presented to the Consular-General for India in Sydney, Mr. V.P. Singh.

The Government of India authorities have highly commended Mr. Varughese's noble act. In a letter to Mr. Varughese the High Commissioner H. E. Shri J. C. Ajmani, said "that it was a 'unique' method and that he could hardly recall a similar instance where a private individual gave practical shape to his humanitarian feelings by an act of personal suffering and sacrifice" as that of Mr. Varughese.

Mr. Varughese arrived in Australia in 1963, and was the first Malyalee (from Kerala in South India) to be appointed to the N.S.W. department of Education.

Mr. Varughese is an educationist of repute and has prepared Lecture Series on the "Great Religions of the World" and many more for the Adult Education Department at the university of Sydney. In 1977, he was selected as UNESCO expert on Science Teaching in Australia. A keen sportsman, Mr. Varughese's interest include Soccer, Squash and Tennis. He lives in the Sydney South-Eastern suburb of Maroubra with his wife Rose, who is a specialist in "Remedial Education" and they have two children, Paul and Geeta 5.

HONG KONG

THREE BANKERS

Mr. S.K. Chakraborty, General Manager of Bank of India was on an official tour of Bank of India's branches in South East Asia and the Far East. He was in Hong Kong for 4 days when he called on the Banking Commissioner, international banks and important customers of the Bank. A dinner was hosted in his honour by Mr. Vishnu N. Aswani and seen at the occasion are from left: Mr. S. K. Chakraborty, Mr. K. Dialdas and Mr. K. L. Samant.

LET ME INTRODUCE

To introduce the General Manager of National Insurance Co. Ltd. Calcutta, Mr. M. R. Dasgupta who was recently in Hong Kong Mr. B. S. Saigal hosted a reception in his honour on 1st September at Hilton Hotel. Pictured from left to right: Mr. K.C. Yang, Manager of Ming An Insurance Co; Mr. M. R. Dasgupta, Mrs. Rajni Kapoor, Mrs. Veena Saigal and Mr. B. S. Saigal — Manager of National Insurance Co. Ltd. Hong Kong.

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AT THEIR BEST

Mrs. Sarla Panchapakesan rendering a national song backed by Mrs. Nirmala Jaishankar. Watching them in appreciation are from left: Mr. G. T. Gul, Mrs Padma Harilela, Mr. M. K. Mangalmurti, Mr. M. P. Ladharam, Mr. H. N. Harilela, Mrs. Anjani Mangalmurti, Mr. K. Sital and Mrs. Parvati Ladharam.

INDIA DAY CELEBRATIONS

The thirty-first anniversary celebrations of India's independence were celebrated at the India Club under the auspicies of the India Association.

Mr. M. K. Mangalmurti, Indian Commissioner in Hongkong, read extracts from the President's message, and complimented the members of the Indian community in Hongkong for their dynamism, enterprise, and involvement in Hongkong's progress.

National songs were rendered by Mrs. Panchapakesan, Mrs N. Jaishankar, and inspirational poems were read by Mr Mittal and Mr. Samarth. The celebrations finished with a documentary film show.

THREE TYPES

There are three kinds of people in this world: fits, misfits and counterfeits.

Fits are those people who fit naturally into the scheme of things.

Misfits are those who, owing to their own ineptitude are square pegs in round holes.

Counterfeits are those who imagine that they can fool an entire world simply because they can fool themselves.

LUNCH AFFAIR

Friday Group held their annual luncheon recently at Football Club. Pictured here are some of its members.

OLA AMIGOS

Arjan & Meenu Melwani held a Spanish party on 5th August at their Woodland Heights residence. The decor was splendid and the atmosphere and music were breathtaking. Everyone attended the party dressed in Spanish attire and pictured here are from left: Nicky & Pishu Mahtani, the charming hostess Meenu Melwani, Mr. Nari Mahtani and Mrs. Noni Pishoo.

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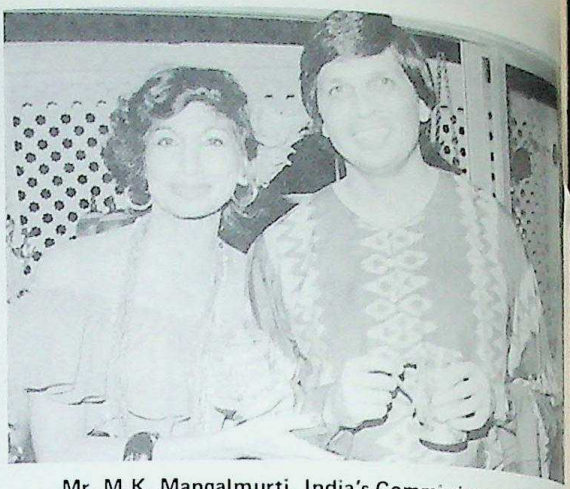
BEVY OF SENORAS

Snapped at the same occasion are from left: Mrs. Shaila Samant, Mrs. Anjani Mangalmurti, Mrs. Meenu Melwani and two lovely ladies.

SALUTE



Mr. M.K. Mangalmurti, India's Commissioner to Hongkong is seen at the Spanish Nite with Mrs. Meenu Melwani.

CANARY ISLANDS

PERFORMING THREAD CEREMONY

Mr. Raju H. Balani and Mr. Suresh S. Balani performed their thread ceremony at Malaga Palacio Hotel on 15th August, 1978. The sacred ceremony was witnessed by over 200 guests. Seen in the photo are Raju and Suresh surrounded by their family.

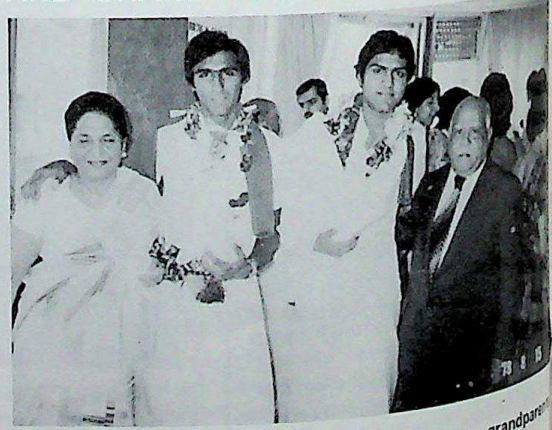
WITH THEIR PARENTS

Pictured after the ceremony are from left to right: Mr. & Mrs. Sirumal W. Balani, Mr. Raju H. Balani, Mr. Suresh S. Balani and Mr. & Mrs. Hiro Balani.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

Raju H. Balani and Suresh S. Balani seen smiling happily with their collection, it was well worth the effort!

AND GRANDPARENTS



Mr. & Mrs. Wadhumal Balani, the happy grandparents pictured with their grandsons.

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VISITOR FROM NEW DELHI

Mr. Shinroku Nozaki, a well known journalist wrote in a daily newspaper, "It was significant that Indian External Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee visited Tokyo immediately after the signing in Peking of the Sino-Japanese peace treaty. The minister was here for the first regular Indo-Japanese foreign ministers' conference."

"The relationship between India and China leaves room for improvement. The present estrangement stems largely from former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's policy of making friends with the Soviet Union in retaliation for Pakistan's pro-Peking stand."

"Indo-Japanese economic relations were another major subject of discussion at the Vajpayee-Fukuda meeting. Since 1951, India has carried out a series of five-year economic programs but result has not been exactly satisfactory. While India's big businesses are said to have grown by a whopping annual rate of 17 per cent during the past several years, the national growth ratio of industrial production has averaged 4.9 per cent."

— Shinroku Nozaki

SWAGATAM

Mr. A. M. Nair, President — India Association is seen on mike extending a cordial welcome to India's External Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee while Indian Ambassador Mr. Avtar Singh (left) looks on.

UNDIVIDED ATTENTION

Mr. A. B. Vajpayee addressing the gathering at Indian Embassy on 15th August, India's Independence Day.

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Gleanings from Indian press

FICCI TEAM FINDS LANKA FACILITIES MORE ATTRACTIVE

The incentives given to investors at Kandla and Santa Cruz free trade zones, apart from unsatisfactory infrastructure, are far from adequate to attract domestic and foreign investments in sizeable scale.

This observation was made by the eight-member industrial delegation sponsored by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, which visited Sri Lanka from July 16 to 22. The delegation was headed by Mr. Hari Shankar Singhania, vice-president of FICCI.

Talking to newsmen Mr. Singhania said the incentives offered by the Union government were in no way comparable with those being given at free trade zones in different countries. In fact, the incentives offered at the Katunayake investment promotion zone in Sri Lanka were far more attractive.

TAX INCENTIVES

Presenting a report on the delegation's visit to Sri Lanka, Mr. Singhania said the Katunayake investment promotion zone (IPZ) was designed to attract export-oriented industries based on local and imported raw materials and which could provide employment avenue, to its growing labour force. Apart from being an investment centre, it was expected to function as a banking zone so as to attract international banks and other financial institutions with offshore funds, he said adding that the aim was to make the island an international financial centre.

Incentives and concessions offered to attract foreign investment to this zone included a five-year tax holiday for all approved enterprises, he said. Thereafter the tax would be levied at the rate of two per cent of the invoice value of sales overseas and five per cent on domestic sales turnover, he added.

All remittances of royalty and technical service payments, were free of tax during the five-year holiday period. Thereafter a withholding tax of 10 per cent would be levied, he said.

The report said all foreign personnel employed in approved enterprises were exempt from all taxes during the tax holiday period. Non-resident shareholders would, however, be entitled to tax free divident irrespective of whether the holiday period had expired or not.

Freedom would be given for unfettered transfer of capital and returns as well as proceeds of liquidation, the report said. Generous capital allowance and facility for indefinite carry forward of losses would be allowed. Permission would be granted to operate secret banking account in non-local currency.

There would be no import duty on equipment, construction material and other inputs and their imports would be allowed freely. No duty, including excise duty, would be levied on products moving from the island to the IPZ, the report pointed out.

The report said the package of incentives offered at Kandla and Santa Cruz free trade zones did not contain many of these incentives. The government should, therefore, review the package of incentives to attract more investors. To begin with, a tax holiday should be declared at bodies in charge of running the zones such powers as to enable them to negotiate and grant such facilities and exemptions as might be required from time to time, the report said.

Referring to the functioning of free trade zones at Kandla and Santa Cruz, the report said, "It is a known fact that both the Zones, in spite of the laudable objective with which they were launched, have yet to come up to our expectation."

The report said only 38 projects are at present operating at the Kandla free trade zone, contributing foreign exchange earnings of just Rs. 5 crores during its 13 years of existence. Similarly, the Santa Cruz electronic export processing zone has been able to attract, as of September 1977, 38 units of which only 23 have gone into production since 1974 when the zone was opened.

OVERSEAS INDIANS DEMAND VOTING RIGHTS

The Union Law Minister, Mr. Shanti Bhushan told the Parliament that the Government was not in favour of accepting the demand of overseas Indians for casting votes in elections. He said that the Election Commission is of the view that only Indian citizens who have ser-

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broad on their own volition can hardly be considered as 'ordinarily resident' in India for the purpose of exercising their right of franchise in elections held in India. The 'postal ballot' facility is a special privilege which is extended only to special categories of persons in India who are prevented from exercising their franchise on account of the nature of their public duties.

The Commission is further of the view that the present period of about 20-25 days normally allowed between the last date of withdrawal of candidature and the last date fixed for counting of votes would hardly be sufficient to send ballot papers by post to persons living abroad in different parts of the world and to receive back the marked ballot papers from them before the time fixed for counting of votes.

IYC CHIEF IN INDIA

Dr. (Mrs.) Estefania Aldaba-Lim, U.N. special representative for the International Year of the Child (IYC), told newsmen in New Delhi (August 18) that a special fund for child development programmes in developing countries with contributions from developed nations could be feasible. The initiative for such a fund, however, should come from the developing countries themselves.

Dr. Aldaba-Lim, who addressed the press conference at the end of her three-day visit to India, said that the special fund for children could be a possibility next year which has been designated as International Year for the Child by the United Nations. She said the UNICEF, which was now operating in 110 countries, would double its resources in another seven years. At present UNICEF budget for India is $20 million which is likely to go up to $50 million in the next seven years.

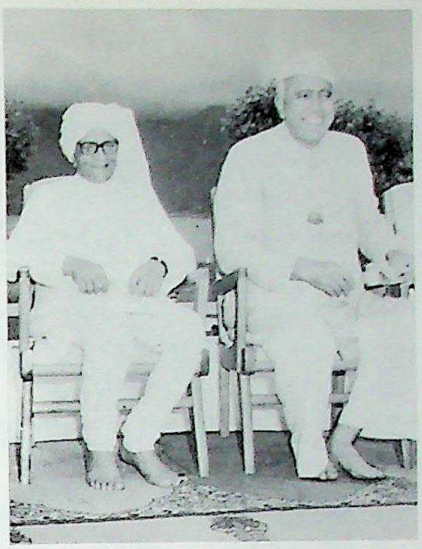
SPEAKS FOR KIDS

Referring to the recent UN disarmament meet, Mrs. Aldaba-Lim told newsmen that but for "topsy-turvy" governmental budget allocations all over the world, the children would have been in a better state today. She disclosed that Prime Minister Morarji Desai was personally interested in IYC programmes which were being drawn up in India. She said Mr. Desai had himself chaired two meetings of the National Children's Board in April and July last. The Prime Minister, she added, was for drafting of such programmes as were realistic and could be implemented.

Mrs Aldaba-Lim said while the problem was that of physical deprivation in the poor and developing nations of the world, it manifested in the shape of emotional and mental disorders suffered by children in rich countries. She said if there were malnutrition, illiteracy, infant mortality in one part of the world, it was juvenile delinquency, drug addiction, prostitution and the like in the other. Mrs. Aldaba-Lim expressed the hope that the programmes initiated during the IYC would not remain confined to 1979.

— Somnath Dhar

IN KASHMIR



Prime Minister Desai with Sheikh Abdula at Hazrat Bal Shrine in Kashmir where the Prophet's hair is enshrined.

NEW BHAGAWAD GEETA STAMP

On the auspicious occasion of Janmashtmi, the Post and Telegraph department issued a special Bhagawad Geeta stamp on August 25, 1978.

The stamp shows Krishna and Arjuna on the battle-field and Stanza 47 of Bhagawad Geeta. It means, Thy right is to work only, but never to its fruits.

The stamp was released by the Prime Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai at a special function at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, New Delhi.

— Anil Mathur

HANDSHAKE FOR CHILDREN OF THE WORLD

Dr. (Mrs.) E. Aldaba-Lim, U.N. representative for the International Year of the Child is seen shaking hands with the Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai.

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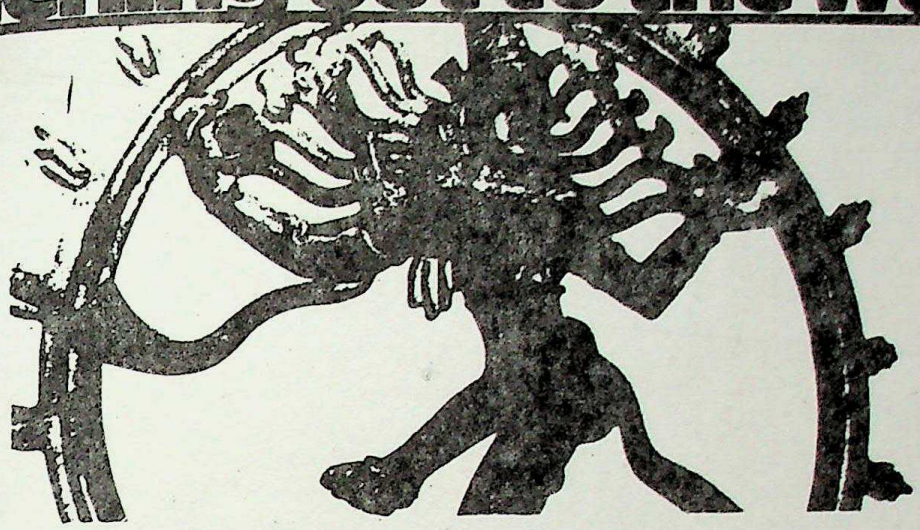

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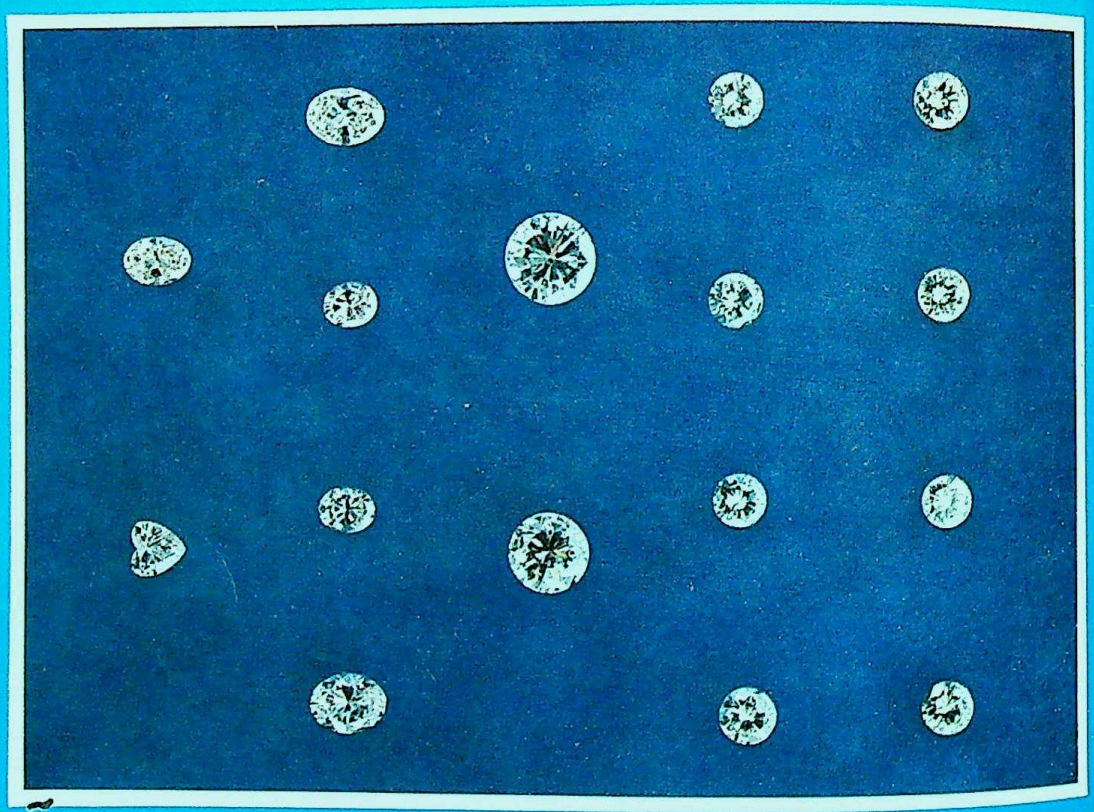

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VOL. IX No. 6

December 1978

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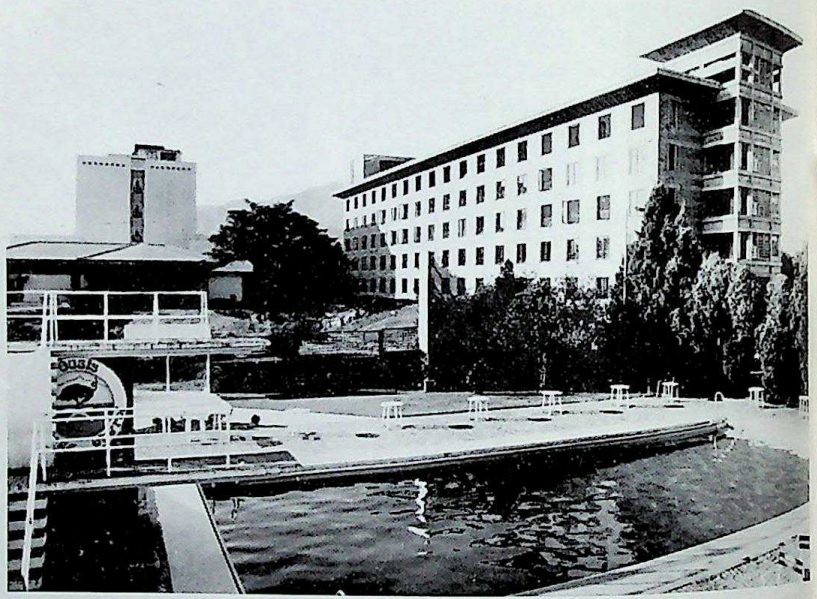
NEPAL

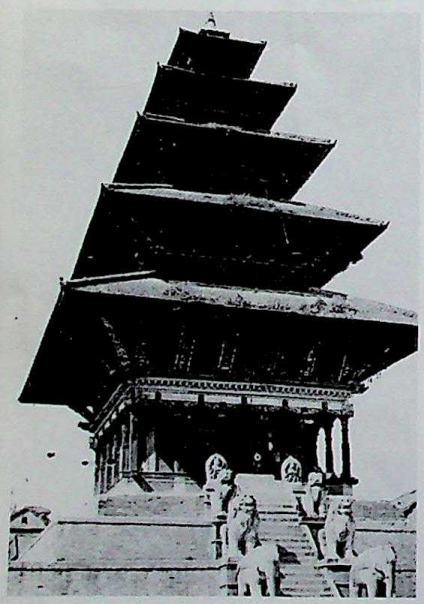
A WORLD OUTSIDE OUR TIME

By Somnath Dhar reporting
from Kathmandu

Anticipating a despatch on Nepal's tourism, visavis India's, which will follow after one issue, it is interesting to make some observations while one is still in Kathmandu, at the peak of the tourist season. Dr. Harka Bahadur Gurung, Nepal's dynamic Minister of Tourism, is happy with the flow of tourists, which increased from 6,172 in 1962 to 1,29,329 in 1977. He would only "discourage those who create problems whether financial or moral." As a Shangri-La, replete with gods and goddesses, Nepal reminds one of Ladakh (in Kashmir), where too the tourist, looking for exotica, is surrounded by medieval atmosphere, untouched by the march of time, but Nepal scores with a big, growing tourism infrastructure.



A view of the 289-room Soaltee Oberoi Hotel, Kathmandu, one of the world-famous chain of hotels, extending from Egypt to Singapore.



A landmark of Bhadgaon, the 5-storeyed Nyatapola Temple was built by King Bhupatindra Malla in 1708 A.D. Famous for its massive structure and subtle workmanship in wood and brick, it is one of the tallest pagoda-style temples in the world. *Photo: Yeti Travels, Kathmandu.*

It was an experience to this correspondent to stay at Soaltee-Oberoi, the only 5-star hotel of Kathmandu, which is proud of Al Fresco, the pastoral-look Italian restaurant – probably the best of its kind, east of Naples, according to Mr. G. Davi, the energetic General Manager. Nestling amidst snow-capped peaks and evergreen ferns of Kathmandu's pleasant suburbia, the 289-room Soaltee Oberoi Hotel is just now adding 178 lavishly-decorated guest rooms to the complex. For the affluent, this important hotel in the Oberoi's world-wide chain has Casino Nepal – the only one of its kind in the subcontinent. The beautiful swimming pool complex is known as the Oasis and includes a tennis court, a billiard room, a card room, besides the usual bars. Hotels Malla, Annapurna and Shankar are 4-star hotels. There are other good hotels

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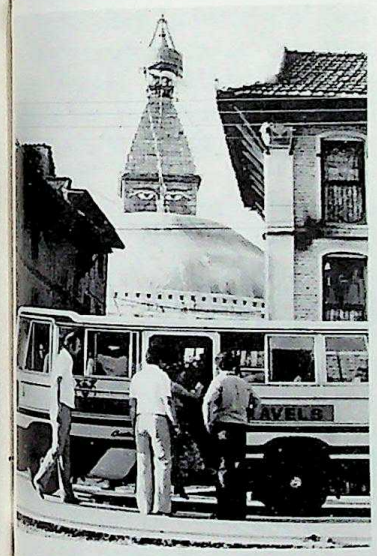
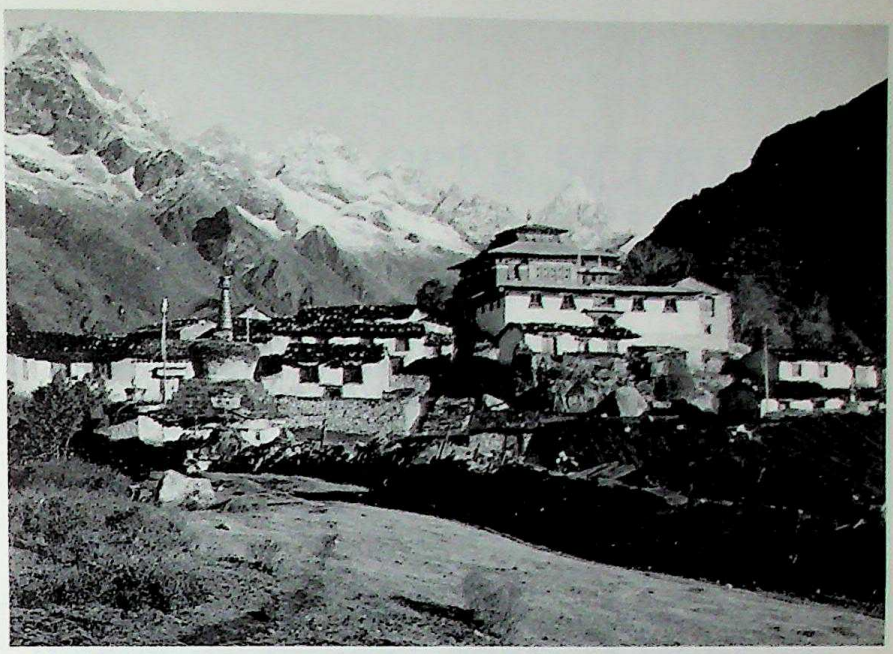
...o in Kathmandu, as well as in ...okhara, which is a unique mountain ...esort, blessed by the gods, reached ...fter 30 minutes flight from Kath...mandu. Outside the Valley there ...e hotels and motels galore.

Travel agencies in Kathmandu ...ave typical names like Annapurna ...Travel and Tours, Gorkha Travels, ...Everest Travel Service, Third Eye ...Tours, Himalayan Travels, Yeti ...Travels, etc. Of these, Yeti Travels ...American Express representatives, ...nd affiliates of Sita World Travel ...nd other big travel agencies of ...New Delhi) are the biggest, servicing ...ore than 75 per cent of the ...ourists visiting Nepal. That Yeti ...Travels have staff conversing, be...ides English, in French, Italian, ...erman, Spanish and Japanese, ...eaks volumes for the strides that ...epalese tourism has taken in recent ...ears.



The colossal Bouddhanath stupa of Kathmandu built on an octagonal base inset with prayer wheels, the stupa has the all-seeing eyes of the Buddha in the four cardinal directions.
Photo: Yeti Travels, Kathmandu.

A quote from Lionel Terry in the ...epal Supplement of *Destination ...dia*, New Delhi (September 1978) ...ums up the natural attractions of ...Nepal, a world outside our time." ...e observed *en passant:* "Never in ...y remotest dreams had I imagined ...ch beauty could exist on earth." ...e had a similar rich feeling when ...ying over the Himalayan peaks, ...me of which we had only seen from afar in Darjeeling. Besides the Himalayas, there are the famous creations of the Nepalese – in stone and wood, in brass and bronze, brick and terra cotta, silk and wool. After having their fill of art and architecture in the three royal cities of Kathmandu, Patan and Bhadgaon, the tourists take to trekking or doing the resorts through the set tours of the Royal Nepal Airlines, reaching even remote resorts of this fascinating land.



Mountain Lamasery at Thyangboche.

Sex: pleasure or problem?

Where does an adolescent or a married youth turn if he has sexual problems? In fact, what are the major sexual problems that confront sex counsellors in India?

These and many other basic sexual problems encountered in India were discussed recently in Bombay at a workshop on "Adolescent and Adult Sexual Problems" organised by the Family Planning Association of India.

Managed by the FPAI's medical consultant, Dr. M. C. Watsa, the workshop was attended by over a hundred social scientists, clinical psychologists, gynaecologists and marriage counsellors.

Nearly all participants showed concern and alarm at the neglect of adolescent sexual problems. The consensus was that youths in the age groups of 12 to 23 years were facing Himalayan personal problems including health and sexuality.

The biggest problems of the Indian seemed to be premature ejaculation, impotency, female frigidity and vaginitis. Most of these problems were due to ignorance, lack of knowledge and psycho-social complexes.

Among the separate subjects discussed were homosexuality transvestism and other sexual dysfunctions by Dr. Prakash Kothari. Homosexuality was found to be quite common in the lower ranks of the Defence Services and associated male organisations in India too. Eminent doctors talked of therapy and counselling for sexual dysfunctions.

The FPAI has finally decided that the first step in the right direction is to open a full-fledged sexual counselling clinic in India.

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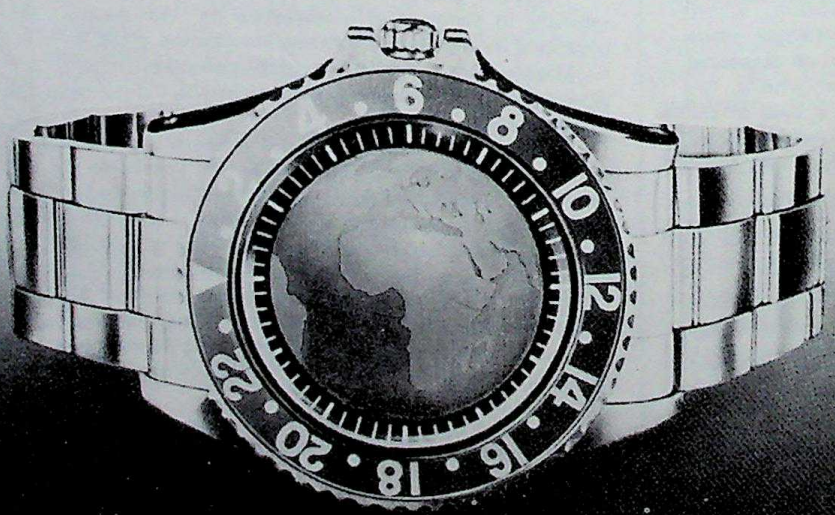

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EXCLUSIVE REPORT

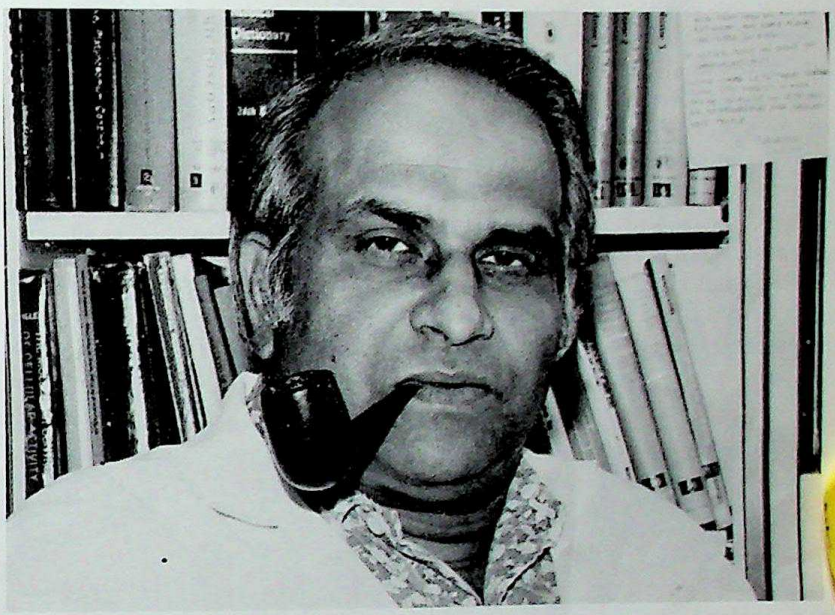
INDIAN VACCINE DEVELOPER SCORES MAJOR TRIUMPH AGAIN

By Carolyn Sharma, Honolulu

Medical researcher Dr. Wasim A. Siddiqui has become the focus of much worldwide attention with the recent announcement that his newly arrived at malaria vaccine is now ready for human use. News of the eventful development came at a much-publicized University of Hawaii news conference at the John Burns School of Medicine where Siddiqui is Professor of Tropical Medicine and heads his own research staff.

The Siddiqui vaccine was first heralded last year by the World Health Organization, among others, whose global target is to see eradicated some six of the world's major human diseases, of which malaria heads the list. Aiding in the vaccine quest was Dr. Shozo Kotani of Osaka University, Japan, whose research team worked cooperatively with that of Dr. Siddiqui over a three-year period in perfecting the preparation. Expectations for its human application revolve around an early starting period, although a specific commencement date and test site have yet to be disclosed.

Until now, the vaccine developed by Dr. Siddiqui has shown conclusive lab results in the immunizing of a highly humanized animal species known as the Aotus monkey of South America. Optimism is maximum for similarly successful results with human subjects once the clinical procedures get underway. The human try-outs are expected to run over a several-year



Dr. Wasim A. Siddiqui.

Dr. Wasim Siddiqui attends his experimental monkeys at his Honolulu research lab.

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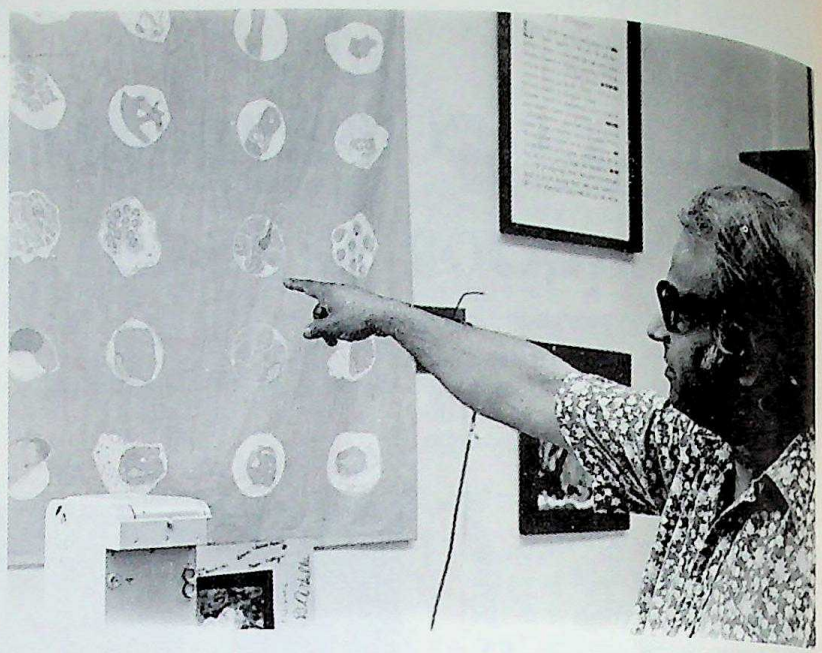
period, according to Siddiqui, but not necessarily to be conducted in the United States. The vaccine itself is specifically geared to immunize against the one human malaria strain, of four, that is fatal–known as Plasmodium falciparum or falciparum malaria (often referred to as brain malaria).

This latest achievement caps a series of scientific breakthroughs over an eleven-year period for the 44-year-old Indian researcher. His combined tropical medicine specialties of parasitology, zoology, and microbiology have involved him in numerous research collaborations at New York's Rockefeller University and the Stanford Medical Center in California. An alumnus of and former professor at Aligarh Muslim University, Uttar Pradesh, he is also a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, where he took his Ph. D. in 1961. Married and the father of two sons, he currently makes his home in Honolulu.



Dr. Siddiqui points to a cloth batik illustrating parasite destruction process in the blood stream, passing from red blood cell to blood cell. - *Photos: Gordon Tomita*

With an upcoming sabbatical leave from his UH post on tap, Dr. Siddiqui expects to spend much of the next year or so in India in continuing the course of his projected research aims.

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KASHMIR
ACCENT ON SHRINES

There was a lot of controversy bout the ancient Hindu shrine at attan (near the famous Martand emple) in Kashmir recently, but the time this correspondent isited the pilgrim centre on August 3, the trouble had ceased to be an sue. The sacred pool was as ever ll to the brim with fish and the *ndas* (who maintain quick-ference old 'files' on all the lgrims who have been there, say, far back as a hundred years) were ry much in action. The con-oversy surrounded a plot of land jacent to the sacred temple which s been claimed by Muslims. timately, under the aegis of Chief inister Sheikh Mohammad bdullah, the traditional inter-mmunal tolerance prevailed, and e *Charri Mubarak* (Holy Staff) at leads the procession of Sadhus the Amarnath Cave pilgrimage ft on schedule on August 12. We w the procession at Pahalgam, the se for the strenuous trek to the ve, and appreciated the thorough rangements made by the Tourism epartment of the State, specially pervised by Tourism Commis-oner D.K. Kachroo and his able aff. This year a record number of early 10,000 pilgrims (Hindus om India and some from abroad) sited the Cave, the trek to which averses the mountain-girt Sheshnag ke and some of the most beautiful enery in the world.

Temple Shri Raghunath Ji, Jammu.

Darbar Mata Vaishno Devi Ji, Katra, Jammu.

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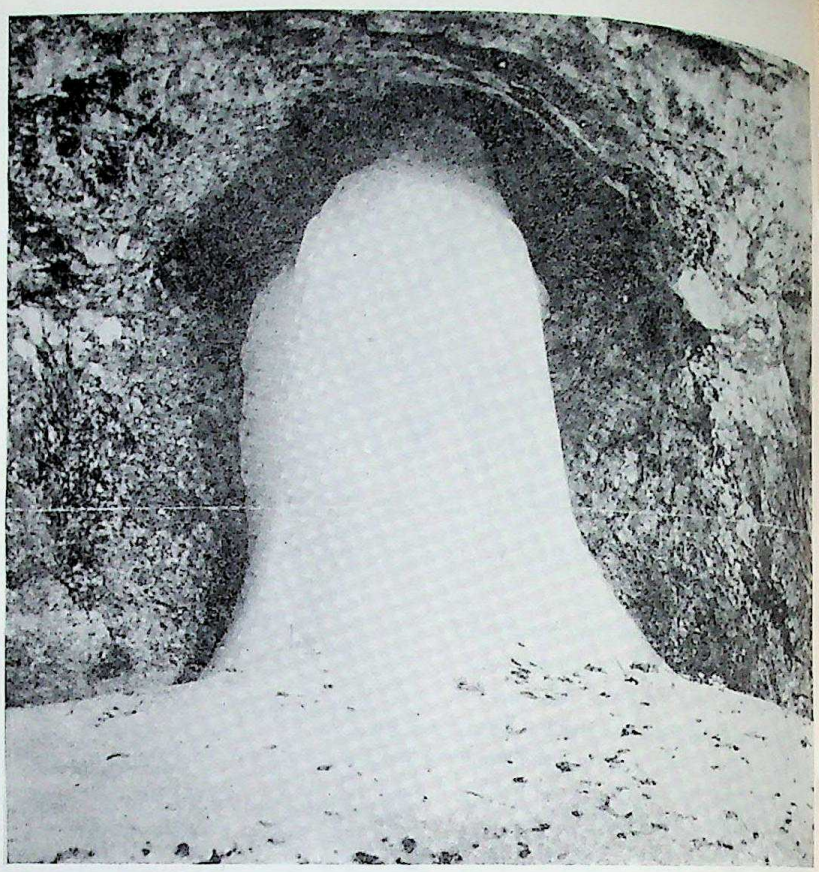
VAISHNO DEVI CAVE

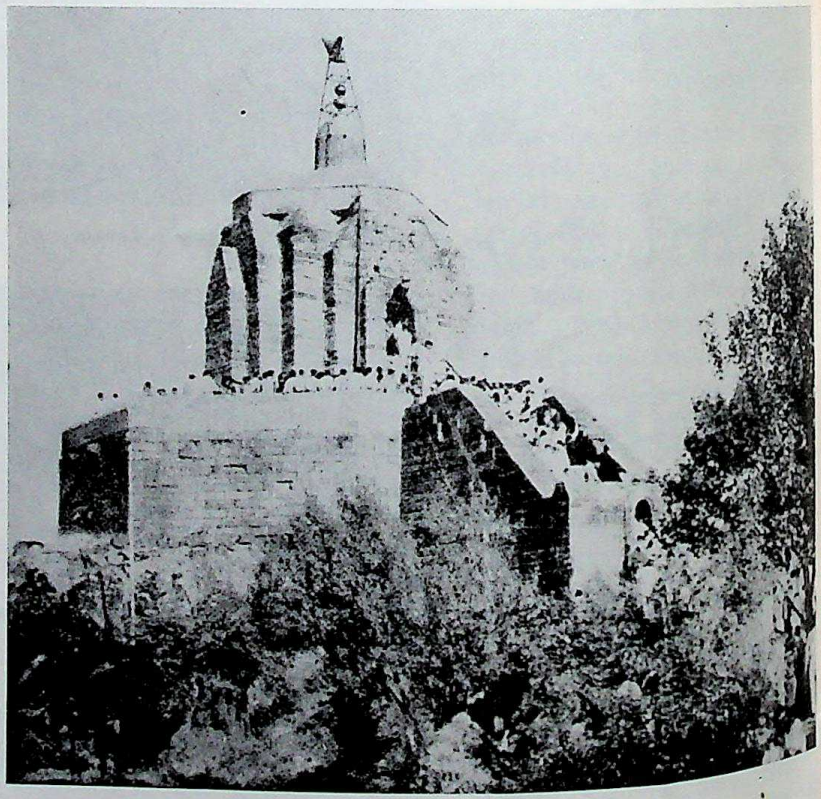
Hardships of the trek also characterise the pilgrimage to Vaishno Devi, a cave shrine at the distance of 70 km from Jammu city. Chief Minister Abdullah was the first chief minister of the State to visit this cave temple, braving all the hardships of the travel, in April 1975. Arrangements for bathing of the pilgrims and for their wait in the long queue to have the 'darshan' of the trinity of the Hindu goddesses (collectively known as Vaishno Devi) inside the holy cave, have been improved since. On March 1977, Dr. Karan Singh, M.P. (former Union Minister), who is the Sole Trustee of the Dharmarth Trust, Jammu & Kashmir, inaugurated the alternate exit at Vaishno Devi, which increased the intake capacity of the cave from 2500 to 5500 in 24 hours, besides providing much-needed fresh air inside the cave. The Trust has constructed a number of *Serais* at Katra and other places, leading to the Cave, and looks after their maintenance. As against the Amar Nath Cave, which is accessible to *Yatries* (pilgrims) in August-September only, the Vaishno Devi Cave is open almost throughout the year. The number of pilgrims through the year did not exceed one lakh in the fifties; by the late seventies, it got multiplied by seven. During January-June this year, the number of pilgrims exceeded 3½ lakhs. The nearest airport (and rail-head) is Jammu, at a distance of 50 km from Katra.

DR. KARAN SINGH'S ROLE

The man behind the Dharmarth Trust is Dr. Karan Singh, by dint of the fact that the Trust was started by his worthy ancestor, Maharaja Gulab Singh, the Founder Ruler of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The Head of State (of Jammu and Kashmir) for 18 years from 1949, Dr. Karan Singh was at 36 the youngest person ever to become a



The Shivlinga at Amarnath Shrine, Kashmir-wanes and wanes with the moon, August/September — the months when the snow bound cave is open to pilgrims.



Temple Shri Shankaracharya, Srinagar, Kashmir.

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Central Cabinet minister in 1967. In 1977 General Elections, he retained his Lok Sabha seat, despite the anti-Congress wave that swept north India. He is now actively involved in the Congress Party. He is Secretary of Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund, President of the Delhi Music Society and Life Trustee of the India International Centre. He is the author of several books. He is married to Shrimati Yasho Rajya Lakshmi of Nepal who is an eminent social worker in her own right. Speaking of the Dharmarth Trust, it has reflected Dr. Karan Singh's international outlook, in so far as the Trust has made a contribution to the development of Hinduism abroad by donating images of Durga and Nataraja to important temples in Mauritius.

There are about 100 temples and shrines under the management of the Trust. Among these is the Raghunath Ji temple complex of Jammu, consisting of 21 temples, the shrine of Khir Bhawani (the water of the spring here changes colour), 25 km from Srinagar, the temple of Shankaracharya (on the top of the hill of that name in Srinagar) and the shrine of Sharika Bhagwati, one of the oldest temples of the Valley at Srinagar, on a spur of the Hari Parbat hill.

TAKE-OVER MOVE

Following complaints of mismanagement of the Dharmarth Trust, one of the premier Hindu religious trusts in north India, two private members (Messrs Mangat Ram and Praduman Singh) have introduced a bill in the State Assembly to empower the government to control the management of religious trusts and endowments. The bill has generated much heat in the assembly. Hindu circles in the capital, so far perturbed accepted the suggestion to circulate the (controversial) bill for eliciting public opinion and to consider it during the next session.

By Somnath Dhar
Our Special Correspondent, who toured Kashmir recently.

Temple Sharika Devi Ji, Srinagar, Kashmir.

Dr. Karan Singh, the Sole Trustee, Dharmarth Trust, offering prayers with his family (wife, Shrimati Yasho Rajya Lakshmi of Nepal, and son, Vikramaditya Singh) at the Vaishno Devi shrine.

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ABU DHABI'S CHILDREN WORLD

By Ali Ishrati

"Indian Ladies Association," says an ordinary black-and-white board at the top of a door to a spacious three-bedroom flat in central Abu Dhabi.

In the corridor in front, are stacked crates marked 'flood relief,' ready to be flown to a New Delhi address. Inside the flat, are three groups of children ranging from one month old to four years, under the care of six sari-clad women.

This little world of children, needing care while their mothers go to work, of Indian women, who have time to spare, has been built up in a period of two years.

"The idea for starting a group activity by Indian women came up at one of the sessions that I have at my house every month," says Mrs Salma Ansari, wife of the Indian Ambassador to the UAE and president of the association.

Youngsters aged from 18 months to four years can make use of the playgroup facilities.

FIRST

The first function of the association, formed on July 9, 1976, was to hold a reception for Begum Abida Ahmed wife of the late President of India Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, when they visited Abu Dhabi in October the same year. A short cultural programme on the occasion delighted the mixed gathering of ladies in the UAE.

The UAE first lady, Shaikha Fatima Bint Mubarak who is President of the Arab Women's Association, is the chief patron of the ILA and has since extended sincere co-operation in almost every activity of the association.

The Indian Bazaar, organised by the association in March 1977 to raise funds for the building of the Indian School in Abu Dhabi was opened by Shaikha Fatima in the traditional – Indian style with the lighting of a lamp. The Shaikha was impressed by the organising capacity of the Indian women and announced a spot donation of Dh. 100,000 to the fund for the school building.

"During the first year, we had the usual activity of organising functions on the various festivals and national days," says Mrs Ansari, adding "but we realised it was getting a bit routine."

At this time the Indian School closed down its kindergarten section for want of space and resources as the children in the first, second and

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ILA creche management committee (left to right): Mrs Lalita Cherian, Mrs. Malati Rajagopal, Mrs. Salma Ansari (president), Mrs. Vasumati Shankaran (vice-president), Mrs. Vijaya Ramachandran, and Mrs. Rachael Fernandes (gen. secretary).

third classes increased.

To meet a community need for a creche and kindergarten, the association embarked on the scheme for a day care centre for pre-school children. A small beginning was made by raising money from donations and fetes. Today more than 100 children attend ILA's pre-school house in the Abbas-Ismail Building near Eldorado Cinemas. The house works from 7.30 in the morning to 8 in the evening.

The ILA charges a flat rate of Dh. 300 per month per child. Apart from these children who are enrolled on a monthly basis, the ILA takes in children for short periods for baby sitting charging Dh. 20 per hour. This money is utilised for paying the rent of the flat as well as for the services of a nurse and the teachers in the kindergarten.

FINANCES

While preference is given to Indian children, a large number of non-local Arab parents have started sending their children since last year.

The play-group for children between one-and-a-half and four years, is drawing the largest numbers.

The ILA has got a loan from Bank of Baroda to rent another flat and expand the day care centre.

Besides the day care centre for children, ILA conducts class with the help of a classical musician, who has been working with the centre free of charge. Plans are under way to teach those who wish to learn Arabic.

Also in the planning stage is a boutique and a coffee shop to be housed in the same flat. There is a heavy demand for holding cookery classes, which, Mrs. Ansari says, will be taken up gradually.

The 350-member association of women draws freely on the assistance of their menfolk but has kept its identity quite apart from the Indian Social Centre, where men dominate.

A regular link with the Arab Women's Association is maintained with exchange visits and meetings between the members of the two organisations. The ILA brings out an Arabic-English magazine 'Jyoti' once every six months as a report on its activities. This is in addition to a small newsletter sent out to its members every month.

The entire effort, as it stands today, involving several thousands of Dirhams, is an expression of what Indian women are capable of.

DELECTABLE

In the warrens of Kalbadevi, alongside the pedhis of the rich sethias, are the eating houses of the Cutchis from Gujarat and the Marwaris from Rajasthan. They have been there ever since the first young apprentices arrived in Bombay to work in the pedhis.

The cooks came along with them and prepared the food with their own Brahmin hands, fresh and spicy and strictly vegetarian. And the same food that was served in the early days is served today, though at more than ten times the original prices.

However, even with the inflation in prices, the food is still the most economical in the city and it is available to anybody who cares for it and can find one of these eating houses.

For finding the places is a problem and it would be best to go with a local guide. Most of the places, with strange names (one of them calls itself "Friends' Union, Joshi Club"), are situated on the upper storeys of buildings that should have collapsed at least 20 years ago. You have to go through courtyards and sweetmeat stalls and climb steep dark steps.

Inside, the places are quite airy and scrupulously clean. And the only aroma is that of chapattis being fried in ghee and garlic papads being roasted. The meals cost around Rs. 5 and you can eat to your heart's content. For the custom of unlimited helpings has been continued uninterrupted over the years.

The menu includes four vegetables, two dals, chapattis and rice, with ghee added to the rice after it has been served in the thali. Besides, there is buttermilk, five varieties of pickles and chutneys and no system of tips.

The only trouble is that after the heavy meal unlike the young apprentices who would return to their pedhis and sit on the white mattresses and belch away the afternoons, you have to return to an office with a table and a chair or something equally unpleasant.

Still, the eating houses of Kalbadevi have played an important role in the life of Bombay's business community. And they have added to the richness and excitement of the entire Kalbadevi area.

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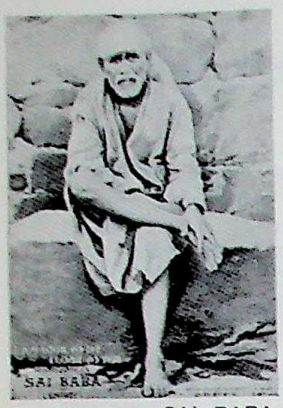

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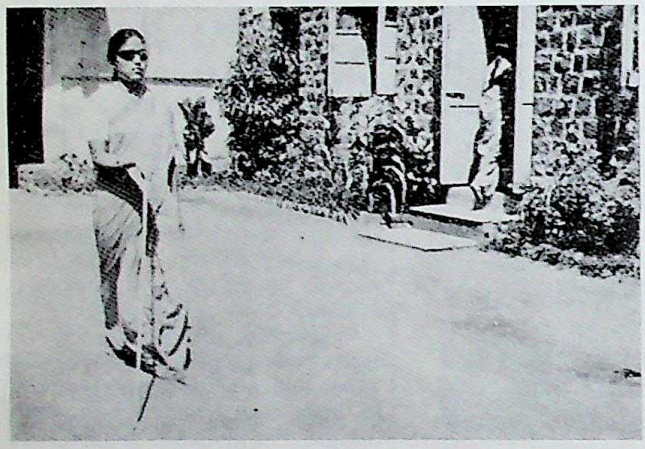

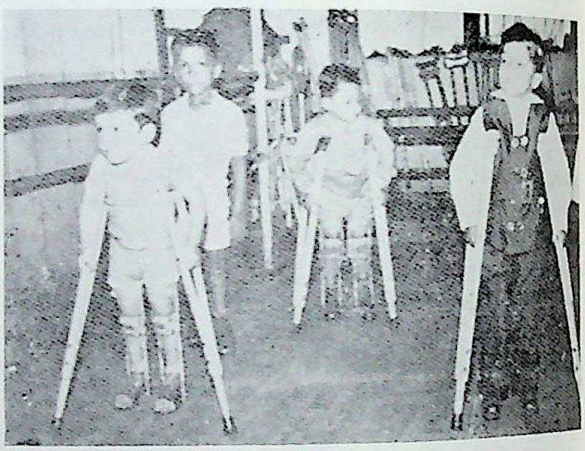

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From Birth to Death

Life is Harder for Females

Females in India suffer from many disadvantages that shorten their lives.

These disadvantages, which until recently operated more or less up to the age of 34, have increased and now affect women up to the age of 45-50 years.

The female death rate, which was lower than the male death rate in 1901-49.9 per thousand against 50.4 males – overtook it in 1911 and has "accelerated dramatically" since 1951. It recorded the widest gap of 2.9 in 1961, when it stood at 23.4 per thousand for females against 20.5 for males.

These conclusions have been reached in a study of census reports from 1901 to 1971 conducted by Prof. Asok Mitra of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, under the auspices of the Indian Council of Social Sciences Research.

The study notes that the census reports laid varying emphasis on the possible causes of the declining female ratio. Some of the causes stated were female infanticide, neglect of girls in infancy and early childhood, premature cohabitation and child-bearing coupled with unskilled midwifery, hard work forced upon women particularly in lower income groups, and general conditions of climate, poor nutrition and bad housing.

The study gave statistics to show that there was great neglect of girls from birth to the age of nine years. It observed that this selective neglect grew between 1941-50 and 1961-70.

NO INFANTICIDE

No evidence was found in any part of the country of deliberate female infanticide.

"Not even with the givilant press of India since the turn of the century," the report said. But there were numerous reports and surveys that bore out neglect of female children.

But "tell-tale evidence" seemed to exist in the cause of death records in several cities that the proportion of deaths resulting from killer diseases was higher in the age group 1 to 4 years among females than among males.

Observing that female babies at these ages were supposed to be biologically harder than males, Prof. Mitra suggested that one explanation for higher female mortality was that female babies are brought to hospitals at a much later stage than male babies. "By then the illness is usually far advanced to respond readily to medical care," the study said.

SOUTHERN ZONE

Mitra found that the southern zone which traditionally has had a higher sex ratio over the decades had been exhibiting a higher female mortality rate since 1931.

The sex ratio had been well above the national average down the decades since 1871 in Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka. On the other hand, Assam, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir recorded statistics well below the national average.

Mitra's study found that in the comparative absence of famine and disease during the decade 1881-1891, the sex ratio increased from 954 to 958. During 1891-1900 the female ratio rose from 958 to 963. This was attributed to the "relatively high mortality among males in the tracts affected by the great famines of 1897 and 1908." A slight rise in the female population to males at birth was also reported.

There was a fall in 1901-1910 to 954, ascribed to female mortality from diseases such as plague and malaria which was far in excess of the male deaths from famine. The ratio fell to 945 in the decade 1911-1920, again due to plague and the outbreak of influenza, which was fatal to women – particularly young married women.

Since 1921, the sex ratio continued to fall from decade to decade except in 1941-1951, in which period the partition of India may have contributed to "higher losses and wastage of male lives in certain parts counterbalancing the continuing deminution of the sex ratio in orders," the Mitra study said.

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INDIAN LAWS ON PROPERTY

Several readers have asked questions concerning acquiring and holding property in India while being permanent overseas residents or citizens. Similarly, there is interest in knowing if retaining overseas bank accounts after they return to India for good is legal and possible. Some are interested in returning to India for trial periods of up to 7 or 10 years and are not interested in liquidating their assets abroad during this period. Answers to all these questions are as follows.

India has a strong policy on management of its foreign exchange. The balance of trade and reserves has considerably improved in favor of India in the past five years. For several years to come, the same policy of "management of foreign exchange", rather than free flow, will continue. This is not only because of the dearth of exchange, but also because foreign exchange available outside the managed sector provides capital for various anti-social trades. The policy will continue to be tough.

In 1974, the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act of 1973 came into force replacing the old 1947 law. Under this law, Indian nationals i.e.; "Citizens of India or persons of Indian origin holding foreign passports" are required to close down their bank accounts abroad and repatriate the balances to India within one month from the date of their return to India for permanent residence. Where the reason for returning to India is to explore possibilities of setting up industry or securing suitable employment, an exemption will be granted for up to three years, in connection with the requirement to repatriate exchange balances.

Foreign securities can be held pursuant to a license and the income from them should be repatriated. They cannot be sold without prior permission. This, therefore, eliminates holding stock that fluctuates in value because when it is taking a nose dive and you want to sell it, a 'babuji' might keep your application for being taken up in serial order. As regards immovable property, the same requirement of permit to hold applies. Income from it must be repatriated.

Obviously, all people returning to India, permanently or for short periods (of say three or more years), will not be happy with the law. They would resent the Government of India's control on their property outside India, payment of taxes both overseas and in India, payment of wealth tax in India on the value of these assets, etc.

Is there any "best possible legal way" to escape the clutches of this law? If you are bent on committing sin and yet not be deprived of entry into the portals of heaven – forget it. On the other hand, if you want to minimize the price you will have to pay for the sin, you can sit with your lawyer and chart a plan of having the best of the two legal systems. But there is no single solution applicable to all situations as the best and legal way.

It is worth noting that a non-citizen of India who is a resident or non-resident of India should acquire immovable property in India after obtaining prior permission. This requirement does not apply to citizens of India. Non-citizens are also required to obtain permission before selling property in India or transferring it by sale, mortgage, lease for over five years, gift, settlement; etc.

I do not know what the outcome would be if a non-citizen contends before the court in India that his bank account and his securities and his immovable property abroad are no concern of the Government of India, that the fact that he was of Indian origin does not give jurisdiction to the Indian Parliament to legislate on his property holdings and interests in stock and securities or bank accounts. Prima facie, it would seem that the law is invidious and subjects former Indian citizens who are now overseas citizens to a different standard than overseas citizens. Moreover, I do not see any reason why a person should not be able to divest legal ownership of property before returning to India and retain equitable ownership and contend that he is unable to repatriate money because he has no legal ownership. Similarly, if there are children who are overseas citizens, I do not see any reason

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why the parents should not be able to gift their property to them and return to India without having to (because they are not able to) repatriate.

Stated differently, the law can be rationalized in the case of Indian citizens who have control over their assets on the date of arrival in India. It fails in the case of former Indian citizens who are now citizens of another country or Indian citizens who have divested their legal rights over the property at the time of their stay abroad and have arrived in India with no power of appointment or disposition.

For these reasons, I would say that you would not have a sure fire way of bringing your money out when you take it into India. The non-resident accounts are not a solution because they become ordinary accounts when the non-resident returns to India. If you are a citizen of India who has come back with the three-year exemption, then you may be able to come out of the country within the three years and not have any problems with repatriation. If you are a non-citizen of India, I fail to see how it is any concern of India as to where you have kept your assets and what you are doing with them.

— D.S. Sastri

Editor's Note

Opinions stated in this column should not be relied upon by the reader as a basis for handling his individual affairs. In every case the reader should contact his individual legal counsel.

NO HONEY MOON NO HAIR

A husband is facing the charge of putting his newly married wife to ridicule by shaving off her head when his suggestion for a honeymoon trip to Bombay did not find favour with his bashful bride.

The incident occurred at Jamboor village in Sagar taluk, about 80 km. from Shimoga recently.

According to a complaint lodged with the police by the aggrieved wife, her husband forced her to a corner and removed all the hair from her head.

GARLIC

Not Romantic, But it Keeps You Young at Heart

Some people can't eat without it, others detest the very name. It's supposed to ward off vampires. And its pungent odor probably ended many a budding romance, too.

But never mind the smell, says a scientist here. A touch of garlic may be the best way of avoiding a heart attack.

Professor Hans Reuter, of Cologne University, has concluded after a long study that garlic is not just disputed culinary delight, but an undervalued medicine.

A specialist in the chemistry of the blood, Professor Reuter has been investigating the fatty deposits which play a major role in arterio-sclerosis.

When these accumulate, forming blocks, a heart attack may result. These pathological changes in the blood vessels are usually caused by a faulty diet.

Garlic is the remedy Professor Reuter recommends.

"Laboratory tests show garlic tends to normalize the blood's cholesterol level," he told a reporter.

"In this way it is possible to prevent disasters such as heart attacks by a simple prophylactic therapy."

Tests seems to bear out his thesis. Using volunteers, Professor Reuter fed them small gelatine capsules containing butter, some with garlic added, some without.

The cholesterol level of those who took a pinch of garlic with their butter remained considerably lower than that of the others.

Equally positive was an experiment with patients who were fed three grams (0.106 ounce) of raw garlic daily. After four weeks, their cholesterol level dropped markedly.

Laboratory tests also showed that garlic not only reduced cholesterol but also killed of a number of bacteria, among them those causing tuberculosis and diptheria, Professor Reuter said. The effectiveness of garlic in some instances outstripped conventional antibiotics such as penicillin.

Professor Reuter says: "One major advantage of garlic is that it has no undesirable side effects – apart from its smell.

"And if everybody were to eat garlic regularly, as in many southern countries, the smell would bother no one."

He attributes the characteristic pungent smell of the seasoning to certain sulphur molecules.

In the "classical" garlic countries – Russia, Greece, India, China – there are conspicuously fewer cases of arterio-sclerosis than in West Germany, he says.

"Granted, it would be going too far to attribute this to garlic consumption only. But together with other favorable elements, garlic greatly contributes towards better health."

He recommends that only fresh garlic be used in cooking because the plant loses its beneficial properties when processed. Garlic powder is only good for flavor and has no medical value, he says.

Last year Prime Minister Morarji Desai told ABC television interviewer Barbara Walters that he regularly ate garlic – and suggested that she eat it too to improve her health.

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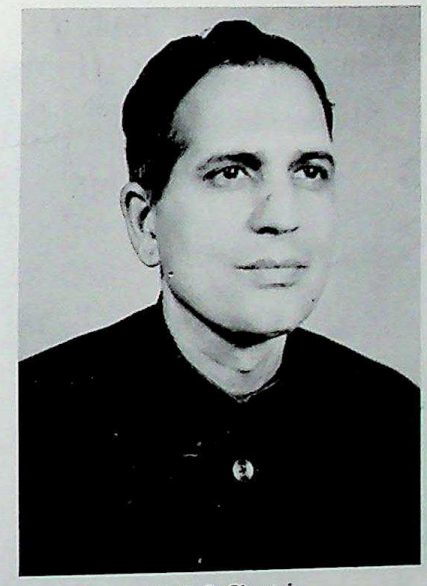
Prem Saran

Goodwill Ambassador of India to Thailand

PROF. SATYAVRAT SHASTRI

An eminent scholar of Sanskrit who recently visited Thailand was none other than Dr. Satyavrat Shastri a visiting Professor of Indian studies in the Faculty of Arts of Chulalangkorn University. Dr. Shastri is a full fledged sanskrit scholar and is also a poet in his own right. He has widely travelled Europe in connection with his mission to give talks on Sanskrit in various Universities, where he was greatly applauded for his deep knowledge of this subject. Prof. Shastri is writing a book Thai-Desha Vilasam in Sanskrit, a poetic description of Thailand. The poems cover the main patriotic theme of the Thai people, the Nation and its culture, the religion and the King. The book covers the whole of the country, history and legends are also given in connection with places of interest. Prof Shastri stated that the Thai people, language structure and traditional traits are closely related to Chinese, on the other hand Thailand's close affinity culturally with India is unmistakable, as seen from Buddhism and Hinduism and the intellectual quests of the people of the land. The blend of Buddhism and Hinduism is complete in Thailand.



Prof. S. Shastri

Prof. Shastri, winner of Sahitya Academy Award, in 1969, in creative writing in Sanskrit, did study work of Sanskrit inscription of Thailand. He visited various places and collected a nice compile of Sanskrit poems engraved on stones by Thai poets of Sanskrit. Prof. Shastri is doing what Swami Vivekanand, the brilliant son and scholar of India and equally Dr. Anand Coomarswami, the illustrious artist of Ceylon, now Sri Lanka, have done for their countries. He has proved himself not only as a poet, not only as a visiting Prof. of Indian studies in the land of Shyamdesh, in Swarmbhumi, but also a goodwill ambassador of India to Thailand and vice versa and after all a golden link between Thailand and India.

Prof. Shastri as a guest speaker gives very informative lectures in various organizations from time to time. Very recently he attended the 4th Conference of Geeta International at Kuala Lumpur and has given a remarkably researchful speech on Sanskrit in Thailand at the Siam Society. He delivered a series of lectures on different topics at a number of institutions of higher learning in Thailand on behalf of the Thai Bharat Cultural Lodge. He has been invited by Indo-Canadian Institute, Montreal for a lecture trip of Canadian universities, like those of Montreal, Toronto, Calsory, Albarta and British Colombia. Likewise he has got invitations from Universities in USA to give talks on various topics. Prof. Shastri left Thailand in the second week of October for Canada and USA.

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VAJPAYEE'S THIRD VISIT

INDO–NEPAL

MEANINGFUL BILATERAL CO-OPERATION

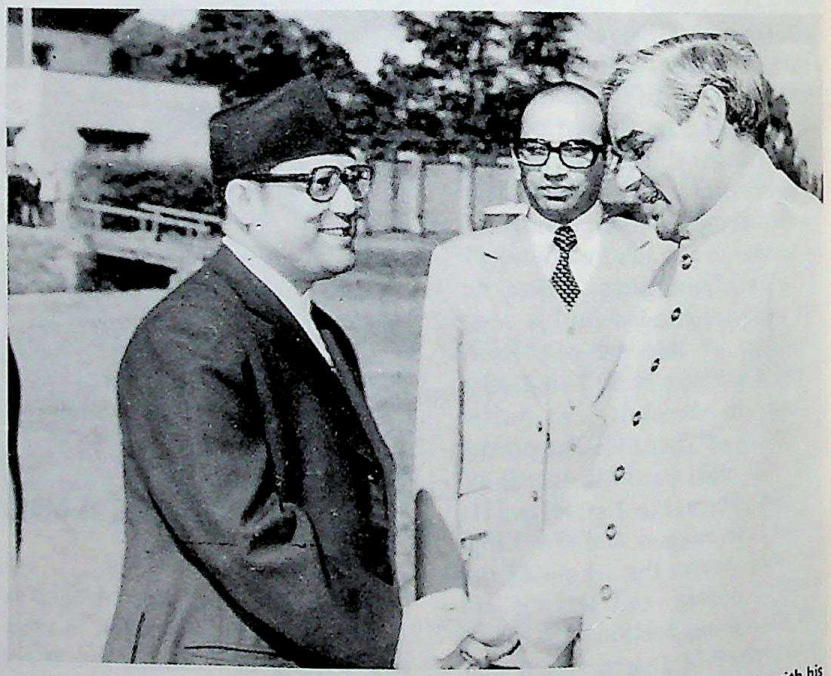
By Somnath Dhar

Our New Delhi Correspondent, reporting from Kathmandu.

Travelling in the Royal Nepal Airways Boeing 727 from Delhi to Kathmandu (Oct.20) was interesting to this correspondent, not only for the fabulous views of Dhaulagiri and Annapurna snow-laden Himalayan peaks but for the fact that Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, India's Foreign Minister, was travelling by the same plane, accompanied by Mr. J. S. Mehta, the Foreign Secretary. In the one-hour flight, Mr. Vajpayee was so occupied with the papers that he did not partake of the sumptuous breakfast as we did.

A tight schedule awaited Mr. Vajpayee in Kathmandu during his two-day visit-routine frills like banquet speech and the address to the Nepal Bharat Maitrai Sangh (Nepal-India Friendship Association) cut out. He would ascertain the latest Chinese mood in his meetings with Mr. Kirtinidhi Bista, who had returned a week earlier from his week-long visit to China. Mr. Bista had given the Chinese hosts an assessment of the new Janata Government which had led to a better understanding among the regional countries. That this was Mr. Vajpayee's third official visit to Nepal was itself indicative of these happenings.

FRIENDS SHAKE HANDS



India's Foreign Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee had a number of meetings with his Nepalese counterpart, Mr. Krishna Raj Aryal, who is seen receiving him at the airport. Mr. S.K. Arora, Minister in the Indian Embassy, is seen in the middle.

And, as Rising Nepal, Kathmandu premier daily, commented on Oct. 23 (after the visit) it was "productive in further consolidating Nepal-India relations, bilateral co-operation and mutual co-operation in this area."

The last visit by the jet-minded Foreign Minister was in the company of Prime Minister Morarji Desai in December last. Since then India's relations with Nepal have further improved. A lot has been going on between India and Nepal ever since

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India became free. Of late Nepal has received the most-favoured nation treatment from India. India recently signed two separate trade and transit treaties as desired by Nepal. The recentmost aid by India to Nepal is in the range of Rs. 180 million—in Nepalese currency.

Mr. Vajpayee's visit was also prompted by the sad fact of recent devastating floods in northern India, and India's need to have an understanding with Nepal to initiate much-needed action in controlling floods. An agreement was reached about undertaking joint flood control measures and installing an early flood warning system. No wonder that the Minister told the many correspondents at the airport that he was "fully satisfied" with the talks that he had with Prime Minister Kirtinidhi Bista, Foreign Minister Krishna Raj Aryal and Finance and Commerce-Industries Ministers.

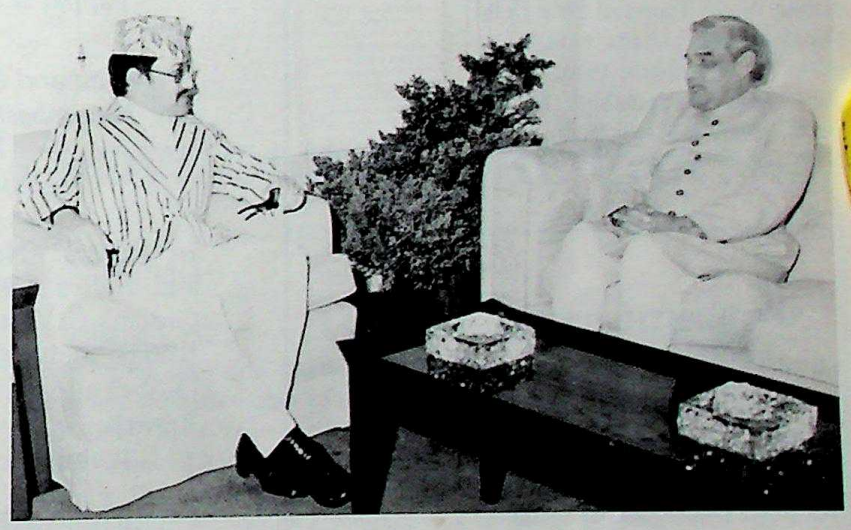
The track of Mr. Vajpayee in office has been edifying. His cabinet colleagues, who left the 'fray' have not been missed overmuch, but no one relished the idea of his resigning when he made a sincere offer of devoting himself to party work. His talks with Nepalese leaders may have been a part of the routine of periodic "friendly consultations", as he put it, but he has made a mark in improving relations with India's neighbours, and mending fences where repairs were indicated. Going by the record, one can say confidently that his talks with Chinese leaders will be successful.

What is wanted in the Chinese Odyssey is the capacity to be unflappable. This trait was amply demonstrated by Mr. Vajpayee at the Kathmandu airport, while he was speaking with pressmen before his departure. He was partly reading from the communique, and adding comments, when a high dignitary from the host government bustled in, saying, "The plane is waiting, Sir". Mr. Vajpayee went on with his comments, as if he had not been disturbed. Ambassador N.B. Menon looked embarrassed, and it seemed as if he was going to pat the Minister on his shoulder, but he did nothing of the sort. (They say a good diplomat is one "who thinks twice before saying nothing.") Another urgent message: "If the departure is delayed, the plane cannot take off." But the Minister went on replying our questions, then thanked the hosts, and finally, with his handsome smile, had some nice words for the gentlemen of the press.

THIRD TIME LUCKY

India's Foreign Minister Vajpayee (garlanded), on arrival at Kathmandu, with Nepal's Foreign Minister, Mr. Krishna Raj Aryal (centre) and India's Ambassador, Mr. N.B. Menon. Mr. J.S. Mehta, Indian Foreign Secretary, is seen between the Ministers.

CALL ON H.M.G.



Foreign Minister Vajpayee (right) called on His Majesty Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Deva, the King of Nepal, during his visit to Kathmandu.

Speaking of India-Nepal concourse (doesn't it go back to ages?), it was a pleasure to see the headquarters of India-Nepal Friendship Association buzzing with activities. At the Tribhuwan University (one of the most beautiful campuses that this correspondent has seen around the world), seeing the Dr. Zakir Husain Rose Garden evoked memories of other days when leaders like the late President and

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Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru graciously sported roses. A Sanskrit seminar that has been going on in town has been vying for a better headline with news of expeditions. Publication of Indian texts and study of Vedic literature is on the cards, thanks to the Seminar, which attracted learned working papers from Nepalese and German scholars.

Let the tailpiece to the Vajpayee goodwill story have the light touch! At the *Himalchuli*, the typical Nepalese restaurant of the 5-star Soaltee Oberoi Hotel, which is named after a Himalayan peak, they have an excellent programme of "classic folk-songs and dances" to enliven your gourmandizing. It was interesting to us to hear one of the folk-singers sing an Indian film song so spontaneously and so well. Earlier, in the day, it was equally interesting to notice at the Yeti Travels (the American Express representatives for the Kingdom of Nepal, and the affiliates of Sita World Travel of New Delhi) Nepalese and Indians working together as a well-knit team to produce what is probably the best travel agency in Kathmandu.

PROHIBITIONISTS STUMPED

PUNE, Prohibitionists and social workers in parts of Ahmednagar district faced a problem during the last assembly elections as they could not find a single candidate contesting the poll who did not drink.

This was revealed here by Mrs. Shobhana Ranade, convener of the Maharashtra unit of the All-India Prohibition Conference.

She told newsmen the conference had printed 12,000 posters containing an appeal to the voters not to cast their votes in favour of candidates who drank or sold liquor.

Most of the posters were sent to Ahmednagar district from where the prohibitionists informed her that if the appeal were to be heeded, the people would have to totally abstain from voting!

OLDEST IN EAST

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Tell Me Why

FOR CHILDREN

HOW MANY MOONS HAS JUPITER ?

To begin with, Jupiter is really like a miniature solar system in itself. At present, no less than twelve satellites, or moons have been discovered revolving around Jupiter. Four of these are approximately the size of our own moon. Two of them are only about 30 miles in diameter, and three of Jupiter's satellites are real midgets-they are about 15 miles in diameter.

Jupiter is the largest of all the planets with a volume more than 1,300 times that of the earth. When you look at it with the naked eye, it appears as a brilliant and beautiful spectacle. Yet it is 367,000,000 miles from the earth at its nearest approach.

Astronomers find a constantly changing "show" when they look at Jupiter through a telescope. It has dark streaks, or belts, separated by bright spaces called zones. The belts don't keep their shape, but often break up into irregular markings of all kinds. The zones change, too, from time to time, with dark spots and bright white areas suddenly appearing. Sometimes a belt, or part of a belt, will disappear for a few weeks altogether. Astronomers believe that what we see as belts or zones, are a shell of clouds or vapors which are often in a disturbed condition.

One of the strange things about Jupiter is that it often displays striking colors on its surface. Two of the belts change from very red to brown, grey, or even a bluish color. It is thought that this has something to do with Jupiter's revolution about the sun. This takes 12 years, and the changes in color seem to follow a cycle that repeats itself every 12 years.

Probably the most interesting and curious thing that has been noticed about Jupiter is its great red spot. It is about 30,000 miles long and about 8,000 miles wide. It varies greatly in color, form, intensity and motion. In fact, in some years it is brick red, in other years it is grey, and sometimes it seems to disappear altogether. Not only that, but this mysterious red spot actually seems to move about on Jupiter, as if it were drifting.

HOW OLD IS THE EARTH ?

This is a question to which we may never have the exact answer. Man has wondered about the age of the earth since ancient times, and there were all kinds of myths and legends that seemed to have the answer. But he couldn't begin to think about the answer. But he couldn't begin to think about the question scientifically until about 400 years ago.

When it was proven at that time that the earth revolved around the sun (in other words, that the earth was part of our solar system), then scientists knew where to begin. To find the age of the earth, it was necessary to explain how the solar system was born. How did the sun and all the planets come into being?

One theory was called the nebular hypothesis. According to this theory, there was once a great mass of white-hot gas whirling about in space and getting smaller and hotter all the time. As the gas cloud grew smaller, it threw off rings of gas. Each of these rings condensed to form a planet, and the rest of the mass shrank into the center to become the sun.

Another explanation is called the planetesimal theory. According to this, millions and millions of years ago, there was a huge mass made up of small, solid bodies called planetesimals, with the sun at the centre. A great star came along and pulled on the sun so that parts of it broke away. These parts picked up the tiny planetesimals the way a rolling snoeball picks up snow, and

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they became planets.

Whichever theory is right, astronomers have figured out that it all probably happened about 5,500,000,000 years ago. But other scientists besides astronomers have tackled this question. They tried to find the answer by studying how long it took for the earth to become the way we know it. They studied the length of time it takes to wear down the oldest mountains, or the time needed for the oceans to collect the salt they now contain.

After all their studies, these scientists agree with the astronomers. The earth is about 5,500,000,000 years old.

WHAT IS MARBLE?

Nature is a master baker. Deep inside the earth is her oven, heated thousands of years ago by great rising masses of molten rock. In this oven she baked, and with tremendous pressure turned limestone into hard marble.

In its purest form, marble is white. Different impurities often give it shades of pink, red, yellow or brown or form wavy lines or patches in it. Different colored crystals caught in the marble sparkle and flash in the sun's rays. In some marble the remains of fossils add to its beauty.

Many other kinds of rock that take on a high polish and are used in building, such as granite, onyx, and porphyry, are often called marble. Real marble, however, is limestone that has been crystallized by nature's process.

When marble is quarried a machine called a "channeler" cuts a series of channels or slots in the face of the rock. Some of these slots may be 8 to 12 feet deep and run from 60 to 80 feet in length. Blasting cannot be used because it would damage or shatter the marble. The blocks are lifted out carefully by large derricks.

A great toothless saw is set to work on the rough stone, while a steam of water containing sand is kept running over it. The friction of the steel blade and the sand soon cuts the marble into the desired sizes. Sometimes a wire saw is used instead of a solid blade.

Pieces of marble are then placed on a circular rubbing bed and held stationary. Sand and water flow over the rotating bed surface, rubbing away the marble to an even level. Then still more grinding is done to give it a smooth surface.

The last fine polishing is done by a mixture of tin oxide and oxalic acid applied to the surface of the marble by means of a buffer wheel.

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MOSHI – MOSHI

Around 90 prominent Japanese dignitaries, mostly Japanese travel executives and airline representatives in Bombay, attended a cocktail party and dinner hosted by Mr. A. Siddiqi, general manager of the Oberoi Sheraton Hotel. Mr. Siddiqi is seen receiving Mr. Tatebayashi, Japan Air Lines' manager in Bombay. At the back of the picture is Mrs. Toni Siddiqi, the Oberoi Sheraton's public relations officer.

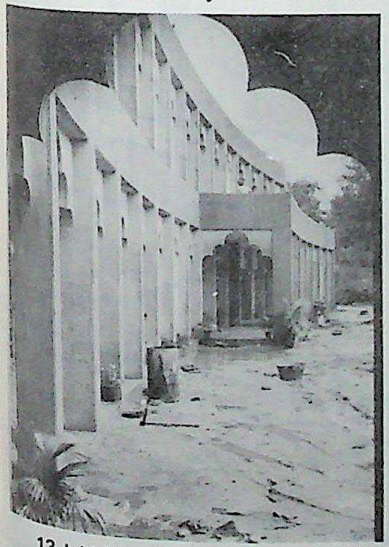
ONE OF A KIND

The only woman pilot in India, perhaps Asia, Capt. (Miss) Durba Banerjee has logged 13,000 hours. A Friendship Commander, she is currently undergoing training on Boeings.

with catering facilities close to the Taj Mahal. They decided to use the consultancy services of Haryana Tourism Corporation which is "Pacific Area Travel Agents" (India Chapter) Award winner and has provided outstanding tourist amenities in the State of Haryana.

Haryana Tourism Corporation (Consultancy Wing) prepared the architectural plans for a Shopping Arcade-cum-Restaurants close to the Taj. The construction was also entrusted by the Agra Development Authority to Haryana Tourism Corporation and the construction was started about a year and a half

Mr. Ashok Pahwa, Managing Director Haryana Tourism Corporation handing over key of 13 lakh double storied Shopping-cum-Restaurant complex built by Haryana Tourism for Agra Development Authority to Mr. A.N. Sehgal, Commissioner at Agra on 28th July, 1978.



13 lakh double storied Shopping-cum-Restaurants building constructed by Haryana Tourism Corporation for the Agra Development Authority near Taj Mahal at Agra.

ago. This Rs. 13 lakh complex has two floors and each floor consists of seven shops and a restaurant.

Enough service area in the shape of kitchen, pantry, electrical gadget-room, store etc. have been provided for both the restaurants at each floor. There are also two separate toilets both for ladies and gents on each floor. The top terrace has been given access to enable the operation of an open air cafe, if so desired.

This building has been constructed next to the huge existing mound and as such it blends with the surroundings and environs. The material used and the architectural treatment to the facade of the building blends with the neighbouring structures. Intricate jali work in Dholpur stone, arches and use of Dholpur and red sand stone add colour to the building. The building portion which had been entrusted to the Haryana Tourism Corporation by the Agra Development Authority was handed over to the A.D.A. on 28th July, 78 by the Managing Director, Mr. Ashok Pahwa.

– Anil Mathur.

LUXURY COACHES TO GOA

Maharashtra tourism and development corporation Ltd. commenced their daily luxury coaches service to Mahableshwar and Goa from October 11.

The one-way fares to Mahablesh war are Rs. 35 per adult and Rs. 17.50 per child. Departure timings from Bombay and in the opposite direction are 6.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. respectively.

The fare for Goa is Rs. 53.70 per adult and Rs. 26.85 per child. Departure timings are 4.30 p.m. in both directions.

Reservations may be obtained at the tours division M.T.D.C., Madame Cama Road, opposite the LIC building.

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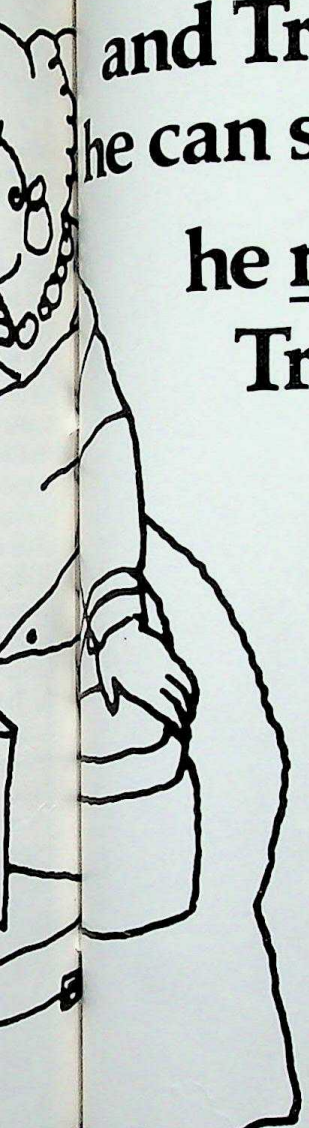
...eaming up an arithmetical solution ...nger with excess baggage, and re-checking the Load and Trim Sheet of a Boeing, he can still balance the balance sheet...

he must be an Air-India Traffic Officer.



A mathematical wizard, our Airport Traffic Officer. Figures love him, always besiege him. And he's never quite himself without them. Kilos, grams, flight timings, 'jet-lags'.

Give him a late-arrival flight. And a dozen businessmen who've missed their onward connections and swear their allegiance to us! He knows they won't be in the mood for love, not with us—so what does he do— he helps to flex their elbows and all is whole again.

He will juggle figures with the ease of a computer. The total weight of his 747 won't be a kilo over 351,000 kgs. And when a family of tourists comes off a flight, not speaking a word of English or Hindi, his sign language will guide them to a hotel of their choice.

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India Sari Palace	102 Madison Avenue	New York	Tel. (212)725-5630
India Sari Palace	37-20, 74th Street Jacksons Heights, Queens	New York	Tel. (212)426-2700
India Sari Palace	2538 West Devon Avenue	Chicage	Tel. (312)338-2127
India Sari Palace	8272 Santa Monica Blvd.	Los Angeles	Tel. (213)656-1155
India Sari Palace	4033 Westheimer	Houston	Tel. (713)965-0242
Sari House (Associated)	Fahad Al-Salem Street Anwar Al-Sabah Building	Kuwait	Tel. 425177
Sari House	Salem Mubarak Street Al-Salmiya	Kuwait	Tel. 619140
Sari House	Commercial Complex, Shop 26-27 Main Street, Al-Fahaheel	Kuwait	Tel. 917145

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From Filmland

Kul Bhushan

Actress And Art

The true actress is dead. Today we just have film stars striving for a name in the Hall of Fame. Such people come and go . . .

There is not much art in the cinema any more. Everyone is out to make cheap movies. Take a film such as Amar Akbar Anthony. It is enjoyable to watch but is forgotten the next day. Not so the movies of the past. They have a charm of their own which does not fade with the passage of time. Those evergreen movies are no more. That is what I mean by saying that the true actress is dead. These are the words of Nargis, the "First Lady" of the Indian screen, who was interviewed exclusively by Viva a Kenyan Women's magazine during recent "Safari" to Kenya.

Then came the biggest break of her life. In 1958, Nargis was honoured with the Padma Shri, India's equivalent of the Academy Award, for her powerful portrayal in "Mother India". She also won the Best Actress Award at Karlovy Vary, Moscow, in Peru and Iran and also clinched the prestigious Filmfare Award.

But the biggest and best award she bagged that year was Sunil Dutt as her husband, a marriage which has been one of the happiest in filmdom. And so, after a quarter of a century as a trully dedicated actress, Nargis decided to quit films and settle out of the limelight.

Nargis admiring the spear of a Samburu dancer in Kenya during her recent safari.
Photo: Chandu Vasani

Talking of women's lib today, Nargis said she was a pioneer, a rebel in many ways. At a time when an Indian woman in slacks caused traffic jams and made people gawk, she wore a swimming costume in "Awara" which showed her perfect body to advantage.

In the same movie, she wore a strapless evening gown, revealing the dreamiest shoulders in filmdom. In K.A. Abbas's "Anhonee" she dared to smoke, an act which in those days was considered a mortal sin. But whatever she did, Nargis did with distinction, with an air of inborn sophistication. There was never anything cheap or vulgar about her.

For here was a classic actress at work. In Awara's courtroom scene, dressed as a lawyer, she out-Masoned Perry Mason at his best. When it came to comedy Nargis again displayed a rare talent. The way she came across in "Chori Chori", the adventures of a spoilt heiress, reminds one of the great blonde Hollywood comedian, the late Judy Holiday.

She said even her shadow in a film is recognised by her admirers, as in "Yaadein" when the silhouette image of Nargis rushes in to save Sunil Dutt from hanging himself.

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Indians Abroad

KENYA

SCIENTIFIC SAFARI

Kenya is the first free African country with which India has signed an agreement for scientific exchange, said Prof. Raja Ramanna, the President of the Indian Academy of Sciences, in Nairobi recently.

Summing up his scientific safari as guest of Kenya Academy of Sciences he said, "Kenya is ideally situated with an advanced scientific community to share our experiences in science." Indian expertise and experience in scientific breakthrough was available to Kenya with the agreement at an academic level. Now it is upto Kenya to see what they want and approach at a Government to Government level for obtaining it, he said.

"I don't agree with the popular western idea that modern science and technology is not suitable for developing countries, he said, "We must weigh the new achievements and see our problems and then we are in a position to use the latest scientific advances."

India had used satellites to bring education to the remotest villages, nuclear science to preserve fruits and vegetables without refrigeration, nuclear isotopes brought about the Green Revolution in India, isotopes have been used to detect faults of pipelines without digging up miles of earth and irradition has brought fast colours for Indian textiles, he said giving examples of recent advances in science for economic development.

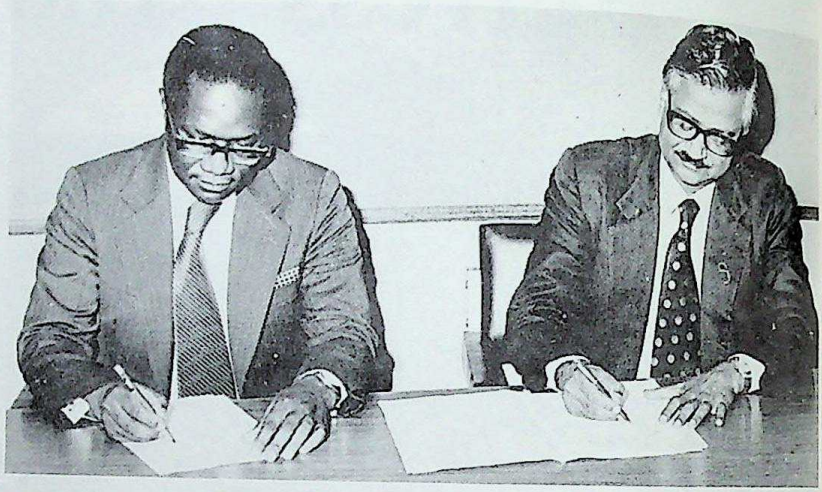
"If these and many other developments are of interest and use to you, we are ready to share our experiences and experiments" he said. Cooperation in science was not merely bilateral but could and should be multilateral as Kenya can invite other African countries to join in these projects, he said.

The agreement signed with Kenya Academy of Sciences covered material sciences and electronics — two vast areas which had great scope for interaction of thought and exchange of experiences.

This agreement would allow experts to meet and plan more effectively. "We want the developing countries to come together as there are good people everywhere even if there is not the proper infrastructure. Science calls for different views of people with different backgrounds and so we welcome and value this agreement and the continuation of the visits started by Professor Thomas Odhiambo," he said.

He gave the example of a small country like Switzerland which had developed by cooperation with neighbours. The same can be done in the developing world now as by the end of the century almost all countries will be developed, he said.

MAKING HISTORY



The Chairman of the Kenya Academy of Sciences, Dr. Thomas Odhiambo and Dr. Raja Ramanna, President of the Indian National Science Academy seen signing the Agreement.

COMMON IDEALS

Overall trade turnover between Kenya and India almost tripled over the last four years, Indian High Commissioner to Kenya, Aditya Haksar has revealed. Addressing a Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry luncheon in Nairobi recently, Haksar disclosed that the trade between the two countries had tripled from 4.3 million in 1973 to 11.7 million in 1977.

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Efforts were now under way to import new items like soda ash from Kenya into India, he said. He advised that Indian market requirements should be explored and direct contacts made between Indian buyers and Kenya suppliers as one way of enhancing Kenya exports to India.

India and Kenya were among the three largest exporters of tea in the world, the High Commissioner noted and said this provided good opportunities for cooperation and co-ordination between the two countries' tea-exports policies and in processing technologies. Technical co-operation through the exchange of trainees and training facilities has been a traditional feature of Kenya-India relations.

Haksar also said many Kenyans go to India for technical studies in subjects like engineering, medicine, commerce, business administration, while Indian professional personnel in similar fields come to work in Kenya.

Commending on the recent visit to India by Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry National Chairman, Francis N. Macharia, the High Commissioner appealed for increased contacts between both countries to enable them to study new co-operation possibilities at firsthand.

Earlier, Haksar had told those who attended the luncheon that co-operation among developing countries for their mutual development was today an important element in the overall global strategy for reducing the gap between the haves and the have nots and creating a new international economic order.

In their individual efforts for economic and social growth, developing countries can learn much from each other's experiences, achievements and mistakes.

Kenya and India both share common ideals and have been engaged in similar efforts to translate their hard-won political freedom into social and economic benefits for their peoples, said Haksar.

— Kul Bhushan

KUWAIT

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Hajji Abdul Latif Al-Oumi and Mr. Sharma extended an open invitation to all patrons, customers and well-wishers of the famous 'Sari House' to mark its completion of twelve successful years in the competitive Kuwaiti business market.

Coincidentally, the occasion fell on the same day as the Diwali festival and a large number of people turned out to attend the grand reception held on 31st October at the tastefully decorated Sari House premises on Fahad Al-Salem Street.

The visitors used the opportunity to have a look at the new stock of textiles, clothings and various other items which were put on display specially for the occasion.

Sari House is a spacious shopping facility in the heart of the town area and is also equally popular with visitors and tourists to Kuwait. It has its branches in Salmiya and Fahaheel, suburbs of Kuwait. Sari House is the most popular and fashionable showroom for ladies specially, though it has suit lengths and other items for men also.

The management distributed gifts to ladies and children to mark the 12th Anniversary and as usual refreshments were served to all who visited.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Several people attended the grand reception hosted by 'Sari House' to mark its completion of twelve successful years.

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SOUTH AFRICA

DANCING DAMSEL

Anisha Kissoon performing an Eastern dance.

COLOURFUL FESTIVITIES

The Box Galaxy featured Indian dances from the Hindu celebration of Deepavali, the festival of lights.

The ancient festival is to mark the triumph of light over darkness and is heavily tied with Hindu ideology and myth.

Deepavali festival started with a lamp lighting ceremony at the Temple in Melrose, Johannesburg. A mass explosion of fire-crackers in the temple garden followed.

Television cameras concentrated on classical and folk dances that were one of the highlights of the colourful festivities.

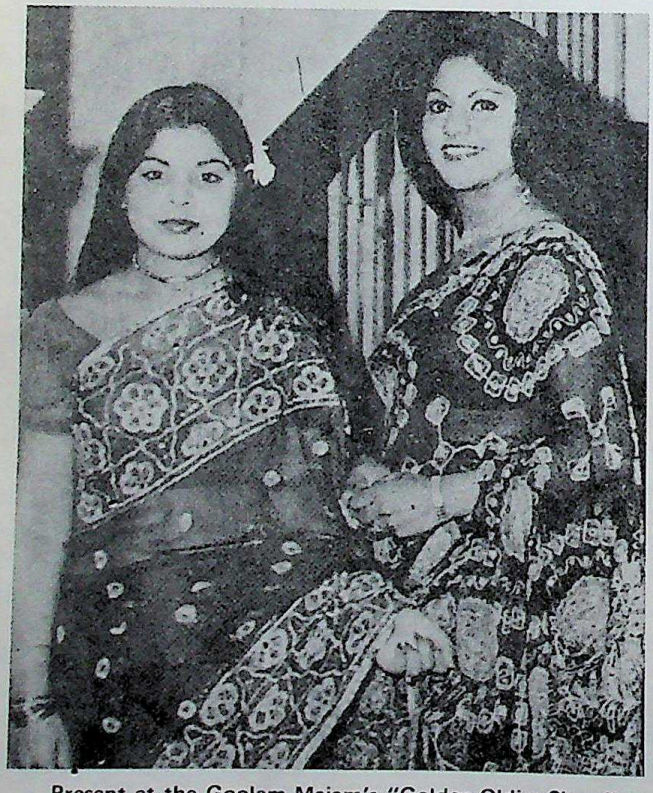
Two formal dances were performed by Satyabhama Kolapen.

She was accompanied by her husband Mahalingum on the mridangum.

THA THAE

Satyabhama Kolapen . . . classical Hindu dance.

PRETTY LASSES



Present at the Goolam Majam's "Golden Oldies Show" at the City Hall were Nimla Maharaj (left) and Fiona Ismail.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Projeni Padayachee, a Durban classical dancer, prepares to offer prayers to the goddess Laxmi.

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SHOW IN AID OF BURSARY FUND

In an attempt to raise desperately-needed money for a bursary fund, the four-year-old Lakehaven Ex-Students' Society (LESS) presented a musical show, titled "An East meets West Evening" at Durban City Hall.

The star-studded east included S.V. Govender, of Kentone Serenaders, the Reddy sisters, who performed classical dances, and Santana, an eastern musical group.

LESS, formed in 1974 with the aim of providing financial help to post-matric students, has also helped many destitute families. It has thus far distributed more than R2500 to destitute families and students.

SMILE AWHILE

This year an admission fee will be charged for the Milk Carnival with all the proceeds going to five major welfare organisations.

Classical dances, will be some of the highlights of the day.

In the picture (from left standing), are Pushpaveni Moodley, Vasugie Devar, Monagharie Ponnen and seated from left, Brinda Rajpaul and Prakashni Patel. They will be taking part in the Carnival.

INTERTWINED

Sisters Mogie (in front) and Mala Reddy, who performed classical dances.

MAIN HOON RANI

A fifteen-year-old Standard 8 student at Burnwood High School, who represented Chiltern Lads F.C., won the queen contest at the Reservoir Hills Football Association's presentation ball held at the Asoka Hotel. She is Shanitha Nundkumar who is seen being sashed by Mrs. Y.S. Chinsamy, wife of the guest of honour. In the background is Mrs. Isaac (Miss Rangers), who was runner-up in the competition.

1 2 3..... BLOW

The Mobeni Heights Women's Circle, a voluntary service and social organisation with a membership of almost 100 women from the area, celebrated its tenth anniversary at the Luxmi Narayan Temple Hall. The occasion was marked by the cutting of an anniversary cake on which one of the officials is seen lighting the candles. Looking on are other officials and members as well as Mrs. S. Poovalingam (third from right) principal of the Durban Indian Girls High School, who was the guest-speaker.

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CLASSIC TOUCH

India trained Vasugi Devar, who graduated in Indian classical dancing some years ago, symbolises the spirit of Deepavali – the Hindu Festival of Lights. Miss Devar runs several schools in Indian classical dancing.

FREE OF SIN

A short play on the life of Avaiyaar, the South Indian saint, was presented by the Children's Theatre of South Africa, at the Tamil eisteddfod at Clairwood. Among those who appeared in the play were Madivanan Swamivel (as Muruga), Kumari Ambigay (Avaiyaar) and B. Moodley (Veler).

BAND MASTERS

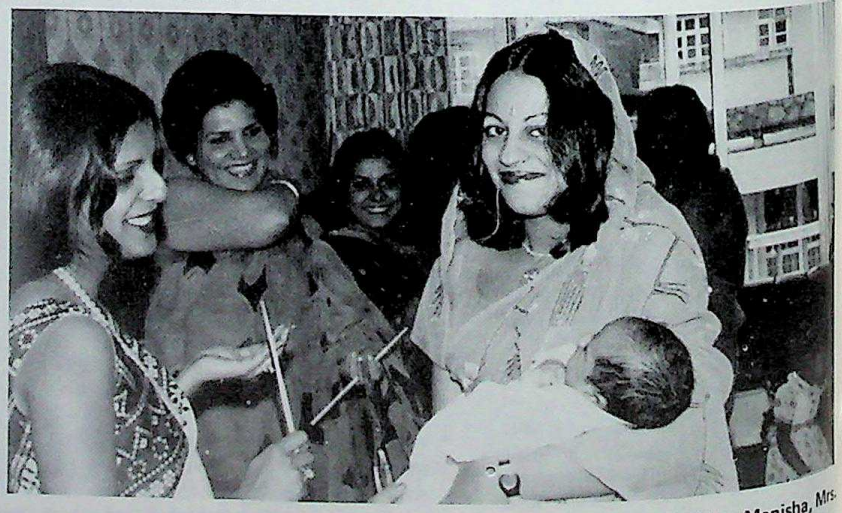
Pictured above is the Sarangi and Nagara band of Haribhai and Party.

TAIWAN

NEW BORN

Vinita & Danny Thakur were blessed with a bonny boy on 8th October, 1978. Seen here are the proud parents with their new born.

ROHI CEREMONY



Pictured at the Rohi ceremony is happy Vinita with from left: Mrs: Manisha, Mrs. Sheila and Mrs. Barkha.

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SRI LANKA

GREATEST GESTURE OF GOODWILL – PM TELLS MORARJI DESAI

The Prime Minister Mr. R. Premadasa, in a message to India's Prime Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, expressed his thanks for the "greatest gesture of goodwill in sending the sacred relics of the Buddha after the sending of the first Buddhist missionary, Arahat Mahinda by Emperor Asoka".

Mr. Premadasa's message to Prime Minister Desai says that the already existing cultural ties have been strengthened as a result of the arrival of the relics in this country.

Mr. Premadasa emphasised that Sri Lanka under the leadership of President J.R. Jayewardene has laid the foundation for establishing a society of righteousness. "Following the noble teachings of the Buddha and the examples laid down by Emperor Ashoka – two great sons of India – we have shown by precept and practice the important pre-requisites that go to form a just and righteous society" the message adds.

RELICS ARRIVE

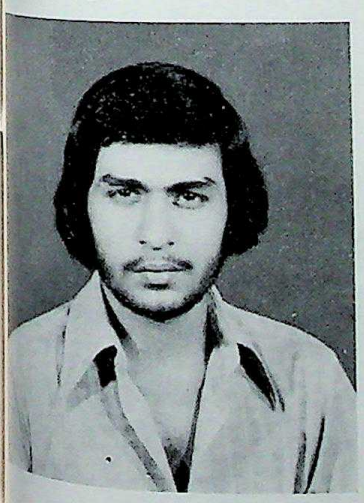
Sacred relics of the Buddha being carried by Mr. J.R. Jayewardene and Mr. R. Premadasa amongst Cabinet members who were at the airport to receive the same.

Rs 35,000 AS DONATIONS

The Indian High Commission Ladies Club, which organised an Evening at India House realised about Rs. 35,000 for aid to social and voluntary organisations in Sri Lanka.

The proceeds have been distributed among the National Council for the Deaf; Ceylon Cancer Society; Leprosy Association of Sri Lanka; Ceylon Estate Workers' Education Trust; the All-Ceylon Council for the Blind; Ceylon Association for the Mentally Retarded; Sri Lanka Eye Donation Society Ltd., crippled Children's Aid Association of Sri Lanka and the Colombo Friend-in-Need Society.

CHAMPION



Deepak Naraindas proved his worth as national champion by winning the Men's title at the Colombo Open singles table tennis championships concluded at the Sports Ministry tables.

SPAIN

TOAST WITH CHAMPAGNE

Almacenes Tokyo, Ceuta celebrated their 6th Anniversary by hosting a grand cocktail at their shop premises. Seen enjoying Champagne are from left: Mr. Sam, Mr. Prem Vaswani, Mr. Mohan Tandon and the proud owner Mr. Arjan Lalwani.

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UNITED KINGDOM

FOLLOW THE LEADER

Chief guest at Deepavali Celebrations held by the Caribbean Hindu Society was Dr. A. Kumar from Guyana. Sitting on left of picture is Hon. Gen. Secretary Sri Dwaraka and behind the chief guest is seen Sri Ganesh, President of the Caribbean Hindu Society. This was one of the most inspiring functions undertaken by the children of the society.

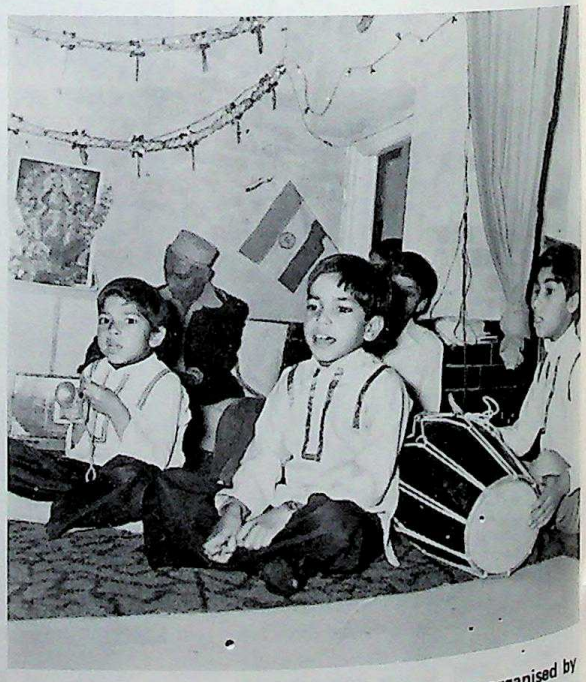
MAGIC TOUCH

Magic touch to the magic of Deepavali, a magician from nowhere produces eight smokers pipes to the amazement of all at Deepavali celebration organised by the Caribbean Hindu Society.

DIYE JALTE HAIN

Parents seen performing aarti.

YOUNG CHOIR



In unision they sang at Deepavali function organised by Caribbean Hindu Society.

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DANDA RAAS

A lively folk dance performed by youngsters.

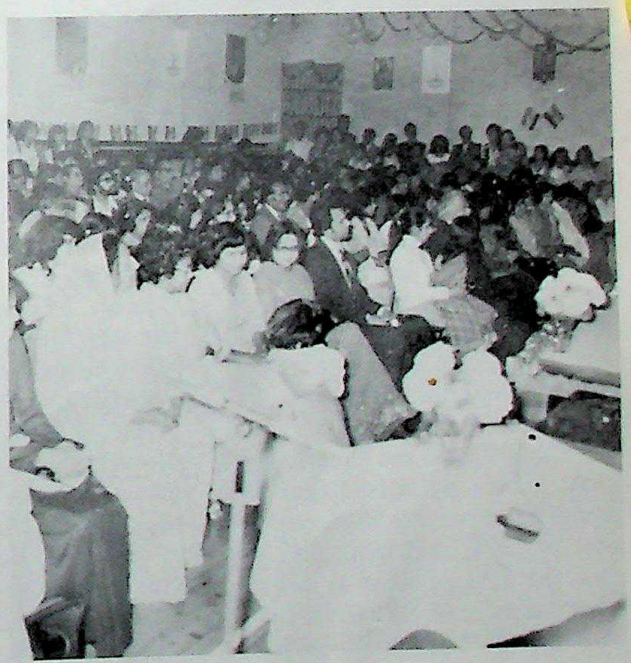
OVERJOYED

The delight and joy of the festival of Lights is reflected here in the young faces of Vivekananda School which is run by the Caribbean Hindu Society where they learn hindi, music and folk dances. Classical dance classes will commence shortly.

FUN & GAMES

All children were given gifts which were distributed by Tiwari sisters who are seen on left and right of photo. Excited children are seen surrounding their Hindi language and folk dance teacher Smt. Saraswati Danee at back of picture.

EYES FOCUSSED



At Caribbean Hindu Society's Deepavali Celebrations is seen part of the large audience who witnessed wholesome entertainment rendered by children of Vivekananda School.

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ANDHRA U. HEAD CALLS ABROAD

Shri M.R. Apparow, Vice-Chancellor of Andhra University (Andhra Pradesh), joined a bevy of other university leaders from India recently in attending the 1978 Conference of Commonwealth Vice-Chancellors in Canada. Following the six day long symposium that was jointly held in Ontario and Vancouver, B.C., Shri Apparow, who was accompanied by his wife on the journey, made a number of stopover visits along the route home. Among the last of his U.S. calls was Honolulu, where he participated in a round of informal discourses with students from India and the resident Indian community. Many of the queries directed his way most, he said, had to do with the effects on his university by last year's devastating cyclone that hit Andhra Pradesh. He spoke optimistically, however, about the rebuilding efforts that are still, in some cases, ongoing and of the business-as-usual approach engaged in to try and minimize the disruption of the school's curricula.

During his Hawaii stay, he was informally feted at a tea reception held in his honor by the EWC Indian Participants Association, headed by Mr. D. Sriramakrishna, also of Andhra U. The journey was the first such venture abroad for both the Vice-Chancellor and Mrs. Apparow. Their return to Waltair, AP, India was dotted by brief stays along the way in various U.S. cities and also in Tokyo and Hong Kong.

A former politician, Shri Apparow began serving in his present post in 1974, undertaking at that time the first of what is now his second term at Andhra U. He brings with him a 28-year political background and from which he only recently took leave. From 1953 until March of this year, he served as a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) in Andhra Pradesh. He was long a cabinet member in that state under former AP Chief Minister, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, new President of India.

INFORMAL GATHERING

Pictured from left to right is Dr. Mehru Jusawalla, Mr. D. Sriramakrishna, Vice-Chancellor Apparow, and Mrs. Apparow.

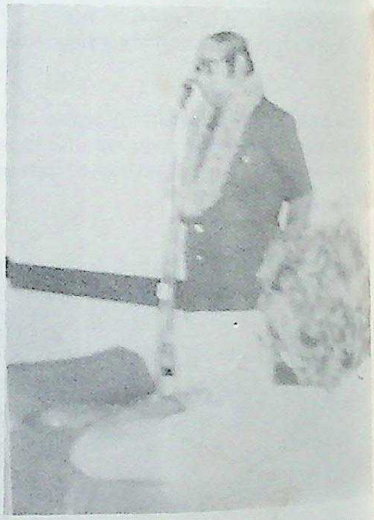
LOK SABHA OFFICIAL IN U.S.

Stopping off in the U.S. enroute back to India recently was Shri Godey Murahari, Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha. The Indian MP had earlier represented the Indian parliament at a late-September conference of Commonwealth parliamentary officials held in Jamaica. Following with a brief U.S. tour in October, he was invited to speak at the East-West Center in Hawaii, where he delivered the topic, "India-World's Largest Democracy."

The 52-year-old Murahari, who formerly served with the Rajya Sabha as a three-time electee, undertook his role with the Lok Sabha in 1977 as a result of that year's March elections, subsequently becoming elected Deputy Speaker of that body.

Shri Murahari is a native of Bihar and was educated at Banaras Hindu University.

— Carolyn Sharma



Deputy speaker of the Lok Sabha, Shri Godey Murahari, at the podium in Honolulu.

DIWALI CELEBRATION IN HAWAII

Celebration of Diwali by the India Association of Hawaii was held on October 28 in Honolulu in an evening of sparkling gala activities. Complete with devotional puja, bhajans, a full-course Indian buffet, and a spectacular variety show, the event was organized under the coordination of Mrs. Indru Watumull, wife of Mr. Gulab Watumull

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of Watumull Brothers. Following a sumptuous nine-course dinner, the numerous attending Diwali celebrants were engagingly entertained with colorful Bhangra dances, Carnatic and Hindustani vocalizing, a children's folk dance, and a couplet of Bharata Natyam and special Diwali candle dance. The annual event was held a few days earlier than the actual Diwali calendar date to accomodate full attendance by Honolulu's Indian community.

In addition, the sum of US$1,090 was raised for flood relief victims in India. The contributions were channeled to the Association of Indians in America (AIA) to be added to their Flood Relief Fund drive. It was the largest sum ever raised in a single-evening event by the India Association of Hawaii.

— Carolyn Sharma

U.A.E.

TAHNOUN VISITS INDIA

The Ruler's representative in the eastern region and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company chairman, Shaikh Tahnoun bin Mohammad Al Nahyan, visited India on a four-day state visit.

Shaikh Tahnoun

UAE STEPS UP OIL TO INDIA

The United Arab Emirates has agreed to in principle to step up its oil exports to India.

This was decided during the talks between the UAE Minister for Petroleum and Mineral resources, Dr Mana Said Al Oteiba, and the visiting Indian Petroleum Minister, Mr H.N. Bahuguna.

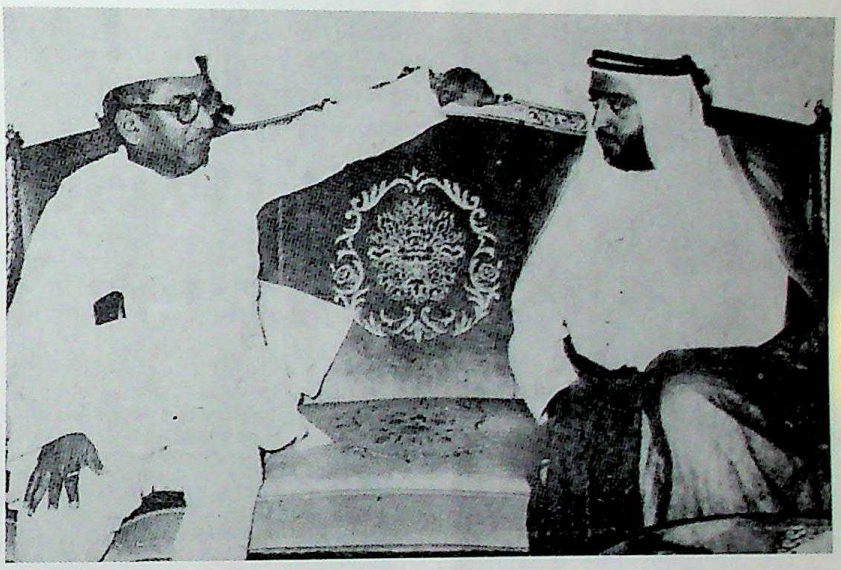
India at present imports one million tonnes of crude from the UAE every year. India's total imports of oil is 14 million tonnes a year.

The two ministers also discussed bilateral relations and cooperation in economic and industrial fields.

The economic feasibility of an Indian offer of joint project to construct a sponge iron plant was also discussed during the talks.

Mr Bahuguna also met the Deputy Supreme Commander of the armed forces and crown prince of Abu Dhabi, Shaikh Khalifa bin Zayed, and delivered an invitation from the Indian president, Mr. N. Sanjiva Reddy, to His Highness President Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan to visit India.

FRIENDLY TALKS



The Indian Petroleum and Chemicals Minister, Mr. H.N. Bahuguna held talks with Shaikh Khalifa bin Zayed, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi. — WAM photo

FEAST FOR DELEGATES

Mr. S.B. Sheorey, Manager, Air India, Dubai (second from right) hosted a dinner at his home for Indian Airlines delegates who were in Dubai for a conference. (L to R): Mr. K.N. Vijayan, Mr. K.K. Chawla, Mr. Mohan Rao, Mr. F.E. da Gama (RM-ME, Dubai), Mr. Jal Tarachand, Mr. Mehra, Mrs Vaney, Mr. Ajit Singh (C.M. Reservations, Headquarters), Mr. Subramanian and Mr. & Mrs. S.B. Sheorey.

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JAPAN

CELEBRATIONS GALORE

With the usual quiet and peaceful life in Japan the month of Diwali is a very busy one and keeps young and old alike on their toes.

With the children's party as a start, it was very entertaining. It is a pleasure to see the talent on stage, talent that is usually hidden. Atleast once a year all the children get a chance to be on stage and show off their best to advantage with all the parents as audience. The Wednesday Ladies Club organised it all.

The Diwali Puja day is a very auspicious and tremendously busy one. From morning, families go to Osaka to do Puja in their offices to evening puja at home to night puja at the Club with sweets being exchanged in between. A chance to exchange greetings and good wishes is at the Club. It truly conveys the feeling of Diwali on this day.

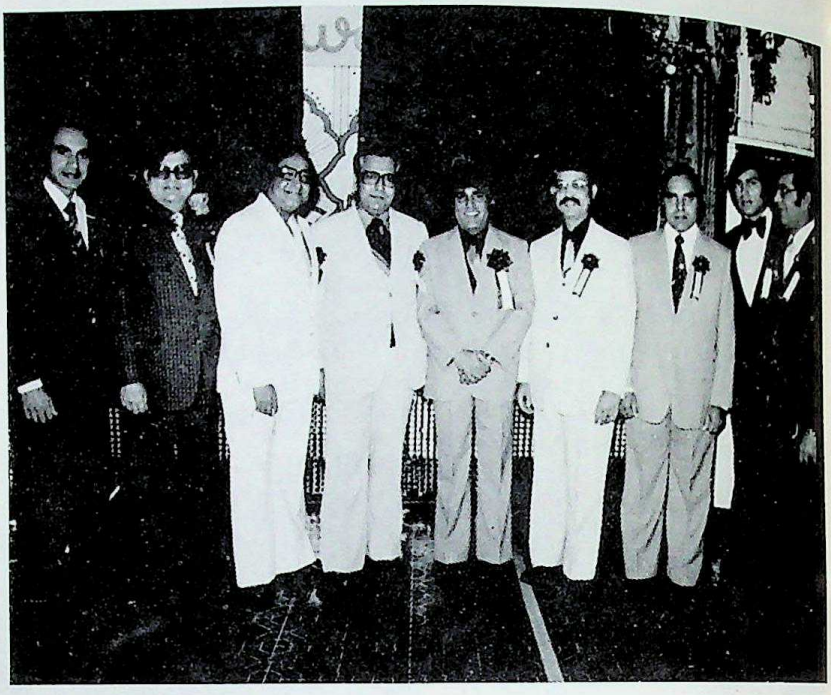
The Diwali ball is the highlight of the year and as always it keeps getting better and better every year. The band and show was exciting. Mr. Vashi Bhojwani of Hong Kong with Mr. Lachu Chablani on the harmonium really entertained everyone.

The Socialites gave a fantastic drama which was very hilarious. Everyone enjoyed how "Amma Pardes Se Wapas Laut Aaye". We have young actresses in the making here!

The finale was the Diwali Sports Day also held at the I.S.S. The children had different races, the ladies had cake-eating and musical chairs and the men had beer-drinking. It was a day well spent, very enjoyable indeed. The President and the Committee have done hard work to put on the best entertainment and we all appreciated it.

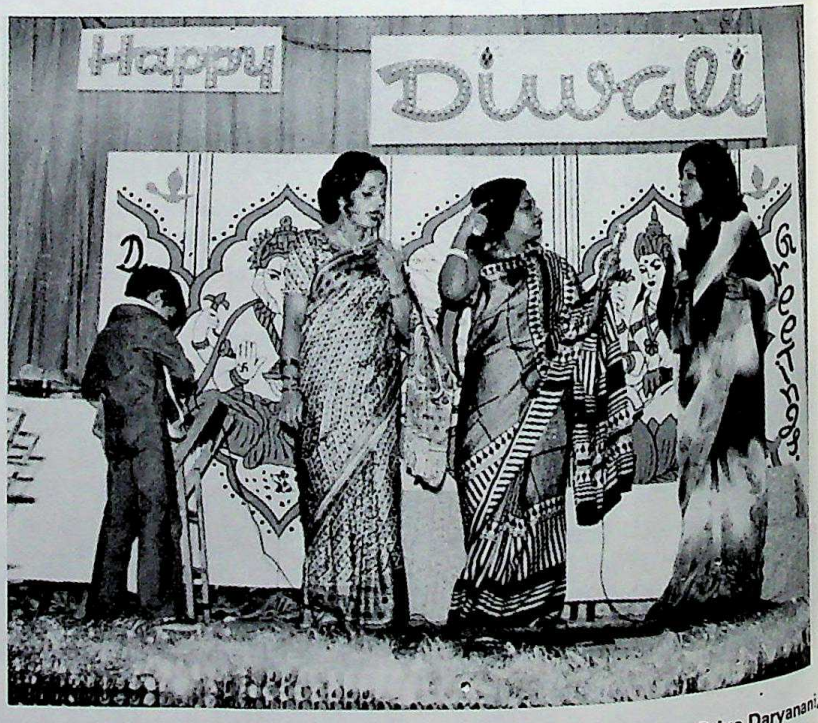
This Diwali also saw the announcement of the engagement of Mr. Deepak, son of Mr. Ramchand Mahtani better known as

TEAM EFFORT



The Managing Committee of I.S.S. are seen from left: Mr. Kishu Dadlani, Mr. Arjan Melwani, Mr. Pishu Tejwani, Mr. Bhagwan Gulrajani – Vice President, Mr. Lachu Chablani – President, Mr. Ram Chugani, Mr. K.P. Ram, Mr. Lachu Kalwani and Mr. Murli Uttam.

STARS IN THE MAKING



Enacting a hilarious drama at the Diwali Ball are from left: Mrs. Priya Daryanani, Mrs. Shalini Mirchandani and Mrs. Sharmila Daswani.

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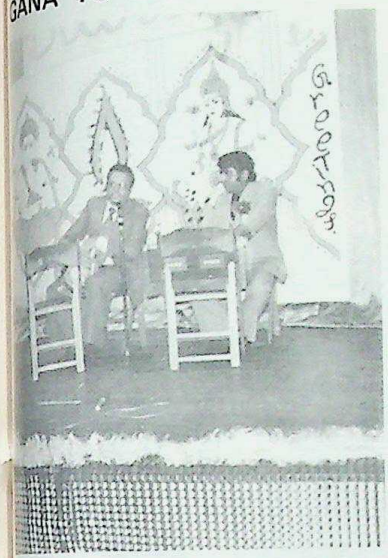
Shree Ram of Kobe to Miss Veena Khubchand Uttamchandani from Bombay. They met in Hong Kong and the good news flew over the world on Diwali day. May the Gods bless the couple with all happiness.

— Kavita Lachu

GANA TO BAHANA HAI



Mr. Vashi Bhojwani from Hong Kong who entertained the Japan public at Diwali Ball and Mr. Lachu Chablani who accompanied him on harmonium.

STRIKING POSE

Kanchan Chablani performing a dance on Children's Diwali Party.

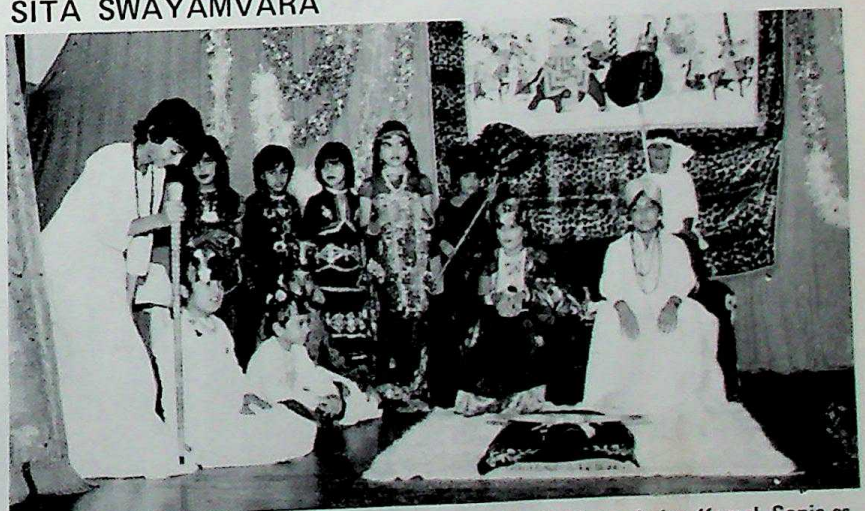
VERY DEER, INDEED!

A group photo taken during Diwali celebrations. From left: Mr. Khubchand Uttamchandani, Mr. Nanu, Mrs. Dipa, Miss. Veena, Mr. Deepak, Mrs. Khubchand, Mrs. Mahtani, Mr. Mahtani, Miss. Uttam, Mrs Sushi Harilela, Mr. Bob Harilela, Mrs. Komal Hemnani, Mr. Ashok Hemnani and Mr. Vashdev Mahtani.

LAXMI PUJAN

Laxmi, the Goddess of wealth depicted by Mona Mirapuri seen with beautiful young girls.

SITA SWAYAMVARA



From left to right: Jacky, Vinod, Prakash & Sunil. Mona, Anita, Komal, Sonia as Sita, Sunita and Vicky with Mukesh behind.

Photos: Kavita Lachu

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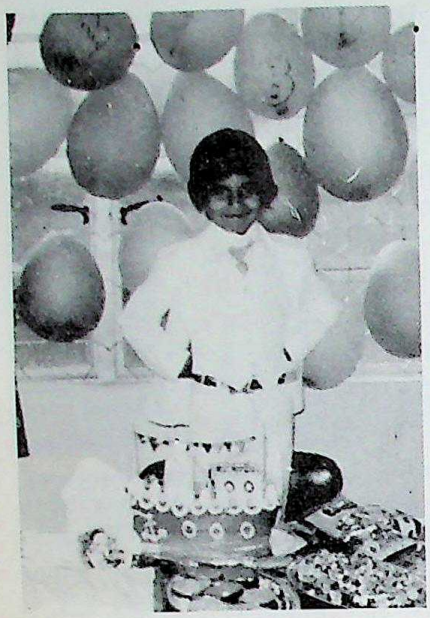
I'M GROWING



Master Bobby Ramani is all smiles as he is pictured on his birthday.

MADE FOR EACH OTHER

Mr. Deepak Mahtani and Miss Veena Uttamchandani toasting champagne on their engagement on Diwali day.

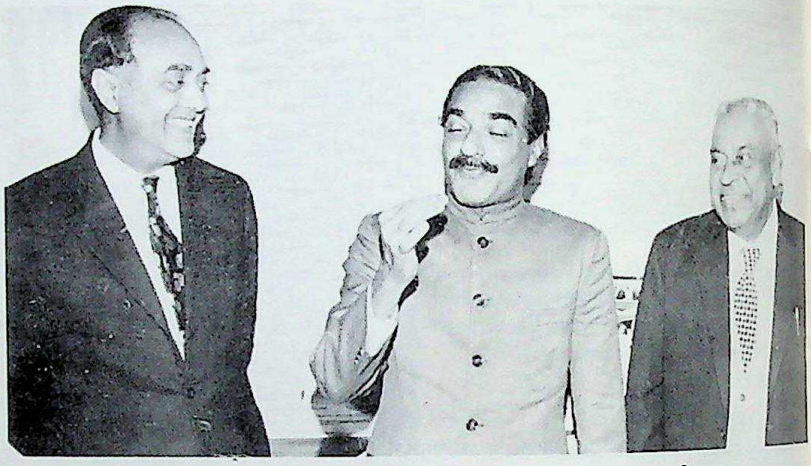
INDIAN MINISTER VISITS

Shri M.G. Ramachandran, chief minister of Tamil Nadu, India, formerly a noted Indian movie actor was in Japan on a five-day visit from 30th November, 1978 and was honored at a welcoming reception held at the Ashoka restaurant in Ginza, Tokyo hosted by Mr.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthday boy Bobby cutting his cake surrounded by his many friends and relatives.

INSPECTING?



Mr. K.M. Mani, minister for home and ports of Kerala State, India, was honored at a reception held in the Ginza Tokyu Hotel in Tokyo. The party was sponsored by Mr. A.M. Nair, President of the Indian Community. An economic mission from Kerala State, headed by Mani was here on a four-day inspection tour. Photo shows, from left: Indian Ambassador Avtar Singh, Mani and Nair.

TOKYO MEET

Photo shows from left: Shri Ramachandran, Mr. Nair and Indian Ambassador Mr. Avtar Singh.

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A.M. Nair, president of the Indian Community, Activity, Tokyo. The reception was very well attended by a large number of Indians.

Mr. A.M. Nair, the convenor, in his welcome address, drew attention to the close and cordial relations among the members of the local Indian community irrespective of the languages spoken. Expressing his gratitude, the Chief Minister, praised the overseas Indians for adapting themselves to the rigors of living in foreign lands and still respecting the culture and traditions of India. The Ambassador who spoke next gave an account of the achievements of the Chief Minister and his cabinet in successfully maintaining the law and order situation in Tamil Nadu. He suggested that the Chief Minister take full advantage of the business acumen and entrepreneurship of the Indians in Japan in promoting industry and technology in his State.

During his stay in Japan Shri Ramachandran attended a signing ceremony for agreements of collaboration between M/s. Hitachi and Tutocorin Alkali Chemicals Ltd., a joint sector enterprise, and visited Mifune Film Studio.

INDONESIA

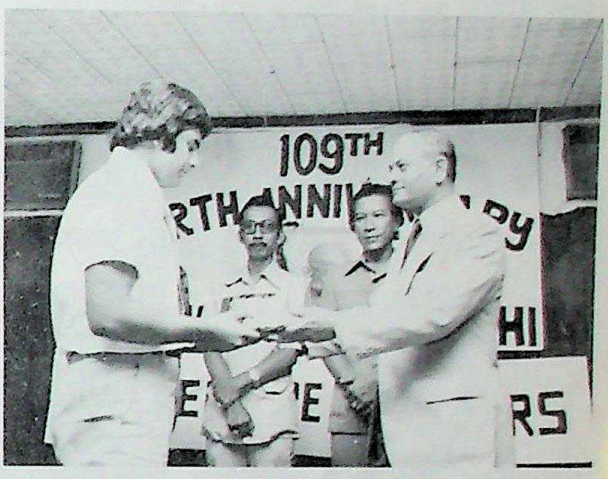
IN GANDHIJI'S FOOTSTEPS

A "Morning of Devotion" was held by the Gandhi Memorial International School to celebrate the 109th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on 2nd Oct. 1978. Seen here posing together on the occasion are (from l. to r.): Principal V. Ram; Mr. G.H. Sawlani; Mrs. V. Ram; Madam Hatta; Madam Mishra; Dr. Moh. Hatta, Co-Proclamator of Indonesian Independence & ex-Vice President of Indonesia; H.E. the Ambassador of India, Shri B.C. Mishra; Prof. Selo Sumarjan of the Vice President's Secretariat.

HELPING HAND

As a tradition of Gandhi Jayanthi, the students of Gandhi Memorial International School visited about 40 orphanages, old men's homes, hospitals and other social institutions in Jakarta, to distribute foodstuffs, milk, medicines, etc. to the inmates. They are seen here with the blind children.

FIRST PRIZE



To mark the Birth Anniversary of Gandhiji, Gandhi Memorial International School organized an All-Indonesia Essay Competition for High School and University students. Seen here is Mr. Vijay Mulani receiving the first prize for the High School level from the Ambassador of India, Shri B.C. Mishra. Also seen in the picture are the two members of the Judges who are from the Department of Education of Indonesia.

SHE'S A WINNER

Miss Irawati Nasution from the Pajajaran University, Bandung, was the first winner for the University level for her essay on the topic "Pancasila & Gandhian Thoughts". She is seen here receiving the prize from H.E. the Ambassador of India, Shri B.C. Mishra.

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NEWSROOM

A delegation of students & teachers representatives of Gandhi Memorial International School paid a courtesy visit on the Director General of Basic & Secondary Education, Department of Education R.I., Prof. Darji Darmodiharjo. Seen above is the Prime Minister of the "Students Government" of the School, acquainting the Director General with various aspects of the School.

RECEIVING TOKEN

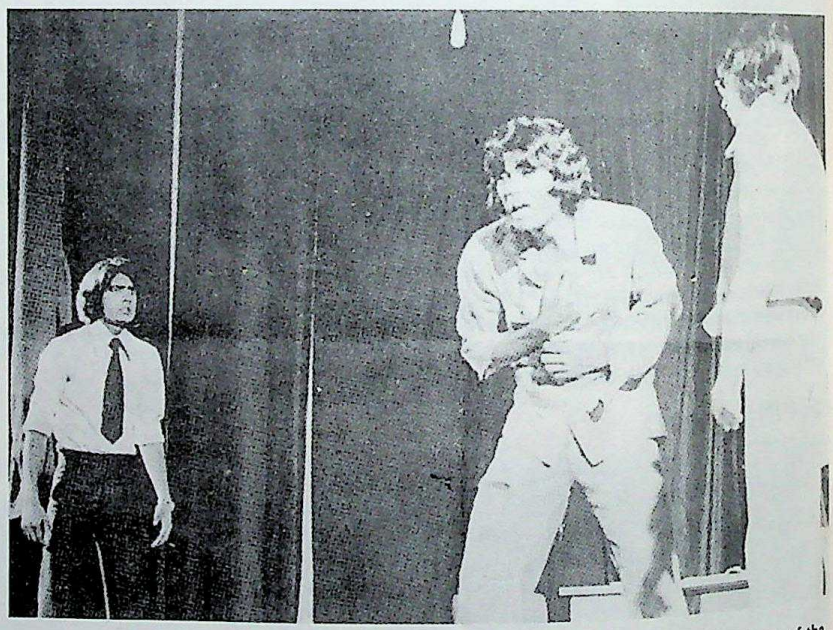
On the same occasion, Principal V. Ram is seen here receiving a token of the visit from the Director General.

MAURITIUS

REST IN PEACE

Pandit Sahadeo, a man who was born for others.

DESPERATE!



A scene from the play "Be-Imaan" by I.C. Nanda, presented by members of the "Shining Stars Group". The trophy of Best Actor was won by Abedeen Bodhee pictured in centre.

PANDIT SAHADEO IS NO MORE

Ardent disciple of Mahatma Gandhi, founder of the Gandhi Ashram at Vacoas; and one of the leading founders of the Labour Party, Pandit Sahadeo breathed his last on October 23.

A group of about 300 people assisted the funeral ceremony, among whom were the Acting Prime Minister and Finance Minister, Sir V. Ringadoo; Sir Satcam Boolell, Minister for Agriculture & Natural Resources;MinistersS. Virahswamy and I. Seetaram and also the actual President of the Labour Party, Mr. James Burty David.

Pandit Sahadeo was born in 1899. Together with Dr. Maurice Cure and Emmanuel Auquetil, he played a discreet role in the Contemporary Political Movement wherein the Labour Party was formed in 1936.

Nasseem Ackbarally

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MEMORABLE EVENTS

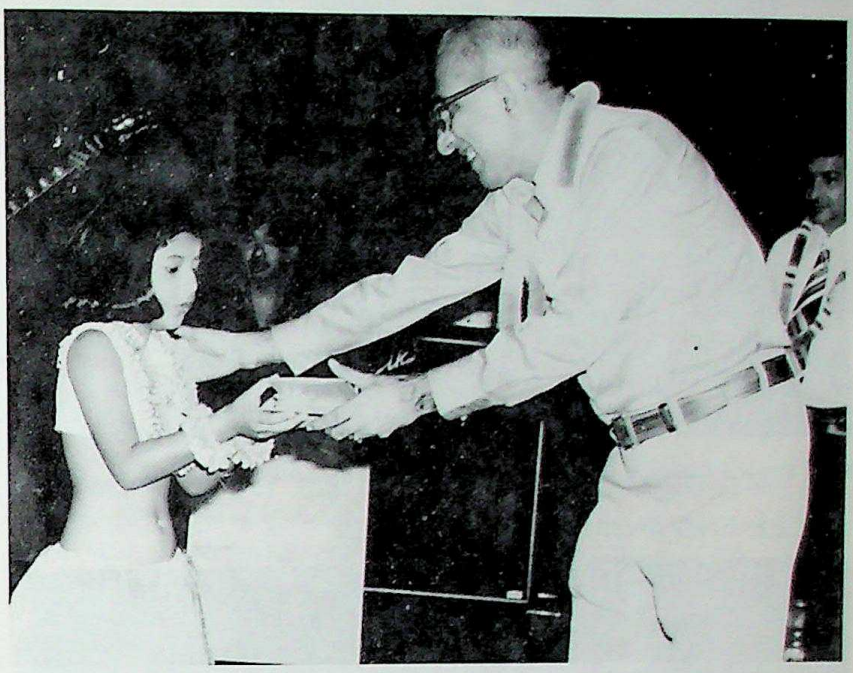
The 109th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi was celebrated by Thai Bharat Cultural Lodge in the Hindu Samaj Auditorium with great preparation and enthusiasm with Guest of Honour H.E. the Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Sunthorn Hongtarome. The historic function got off with National Anthems of India and Thailand rendered by five girl students of Bharat Vidyalaya. The highlights of the event were songs, speeches by prominent speakers and the favourite bhajan of Mahatma Gandhiji 'Raghupati Raghava Rajaram'. The Deputy P.M., Mr. P.L. Santoshi, Dr. Quey Ketusingh, President of the Lodge and Prof. Satya Vrat Shastri made very impressive speeches depicting the life of Gandhiji. After the function a community dinner was served to almost 400 people from all walks of life.

The Indian Club and the Indian Thai Chamber of Commerce held a gala dinner to mark the festive occasion of Diwali in the Nepalai-Ballroom of the Dusit Thani Hotel on the eve of Diwali which was well attended by over 600 people.

The joyous event started with 'Laxmi-poojan', aarti of Goddess Laxmi by three girls in relevant costumes befitting the occasion: Geets, Ghazals and Qawalis were the highlights of the occasion yet Fancy dress shows, lucky draws and dances were no less touching than the items presented. Apart from these charming presentating of dances, songs and other items an outstanding performance was presented by a troupe from Argentina who were the most attractive and made the event a memorable night. The guest of honour was Indian Ambassador Mr. Dalal and his wife Mrs. Pushpa Dalal.

— Prem Saran

HAWAIIN STYLE



Mr. Mahabir Prasad Gogar presenting a prize to a little girl who won first prize in the fancy dress competition.

DUM MARO DUM

H.E. Kriangsak Chamanand, Prime Minister of Thailand visited the Indian stall during UN celebrations in the fourth week of October and showed keen interest in Indian Hukka. Photo shows the P.M. at right asking questions about the 'Hukka' while Mr. P.L. Santoshi of the Indian Embassy explains.

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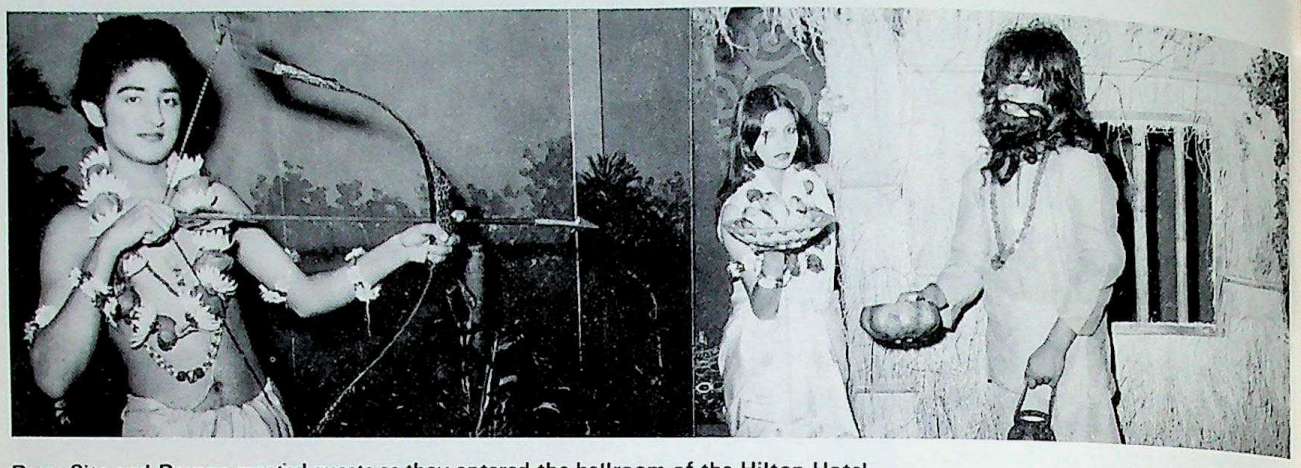
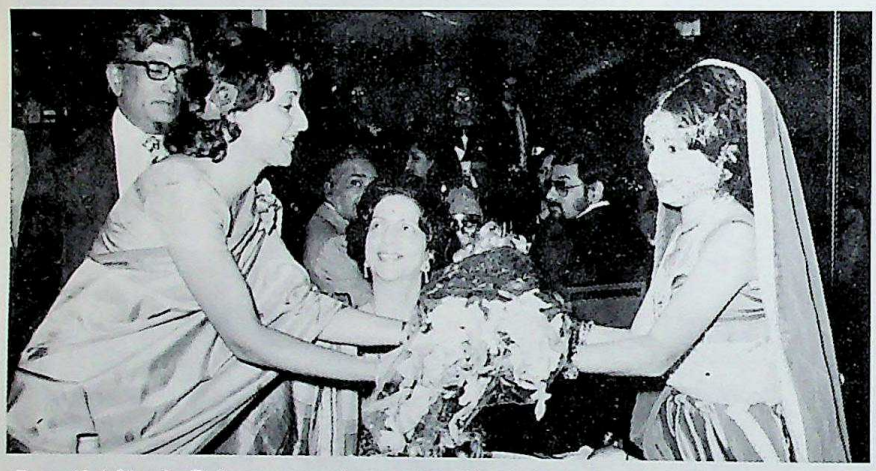
HONG KONG

JUNGAL MEIN MANGAL



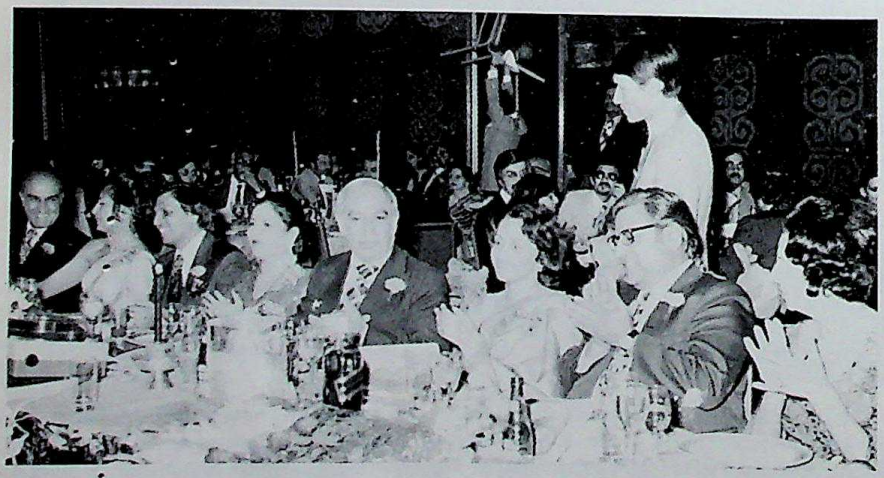
Ram, Sita and Ravana greeted guests as they entered the ballroom of the Hilton Hotel.

ANGEL AND ANJANI



Beautiful Nanda Raj presents a bouquet to first lady Anjani Mangalmurti while Mrs. Talati looks on.

APPRECIATION



A view of the Head Table. From left: Mr. Pesi Talati, Mrs. Meenu Melwani, Indian Commissioner Mr. M. K. Mangalmurti, Mrs. Lita Sital, Mr. H. N. Harilela, Mrs. Anjani Mangalmurti, Mr. K. Sital and Mrs. Minnie Talati.

DIWALI NIGHT FEVER

The festive season of Diwali is celebrated with great pomp and splendour amongst Indians residing here. As in the past Diwali Balls were held on both sides of the harbour which were attended by most of the Indian community.

A spectacular evening awaited those who attended the "Diwali Night Fever" at the Hilton Ballroom. Organised by the Hindu Association with Mrs. Minoo Melwani as Chairwoman of the Ball Committee it was an evening not to be missed. With over 600 people gathered in the ballroom and delightful entertainment provided throughout the evening it was obvious that a lot of effort had been put into this highly acclaimed show.

There was a show with a difference! An unusual theme of "Des Pardes" was invented by members of the Committee which was performed by young and talented artists and highlighted the plight of overseas Indians caught in a dilemma between tradition and the modern ways. Local artists danced film tunes from "Des Pardes" and "Satyam Shivam Sundaram" and a disco number much to the delight

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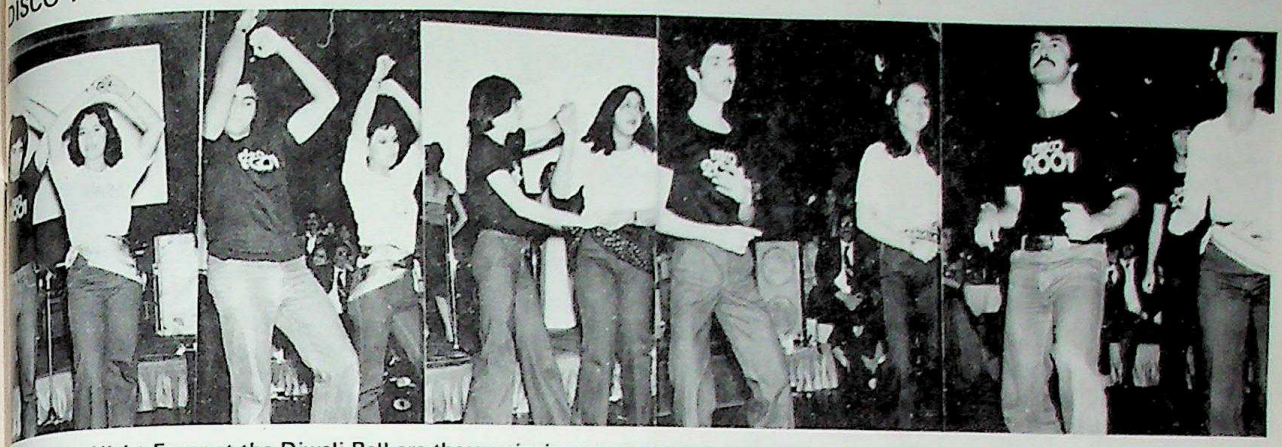
DISCO FEVER



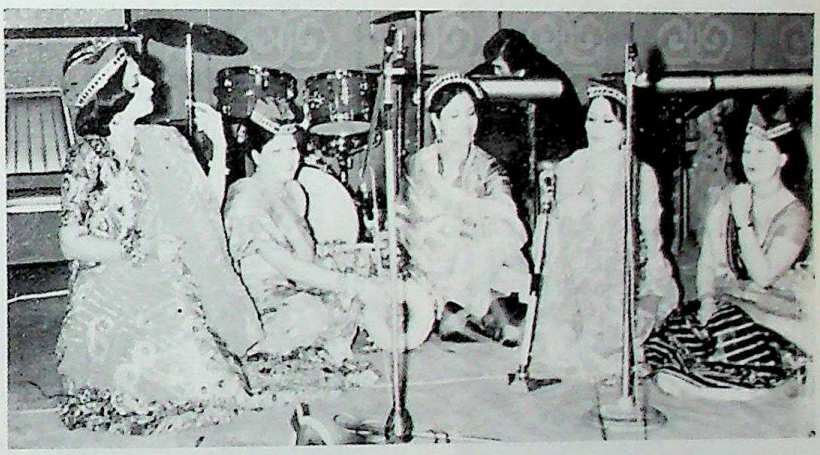
troducing Night Fever at the Diwali Ball are these swinging youngsters.

the viewers. Mrs. Nirmala Dasani devoted much time and effort teaching dances to the performers and deserves a pat on the back!

And yet another highlight of the evening was lively Punjabi wedding songs appropriately titled "Dulhan Wahi Jo Piya Man Bhaaye" and rendered to perfection by Hongkong's charming and melodious voiced ladies, all superb singers in the making. Two beautiful young girls Nihal and Kavita Shah performed a peacock dance and raised thunderous applause from the audience. And to introduce the spirit of Diwali in the air a traditional Indian diya dance was witnessed by all those present.

This year the decor was entirely different. Instead of the usual shimmer & glitter a scene "Jungal Mein Mangal" was displayed with the background of a jungle with Ram, Sita & Ravana. Of course, the food was splendid, the decor divine, the entertainment was marvellous and the evening full of fun & frolic, surprises & prizes.

SHAADI KE GEET



A lively performance by Mrs. Veena Saigal, Mrs. Meera Tandon, Mrs. Pamela Kapoor, Mrs. Carina Seth and Mrs. Indra Dang.

JAISA DES–VAISA VES

Handsome Ajay Mehta tries to swoon Anju Makhija in a dance sequence from "Des Pardes".

EENA & MEENU

Miss S. Chitra who comperes the weekly 'Indian Half Hour' on the radio as Meena was the M.C. at the Diwali Ball and is pictured at left with the chairwoman Mrs. Meenu Mejwani.

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FUN AND FEAST AT TEMPLE

Residents of Hong Kong recently celebrated Govardhana Puja. The celebration, sponsored jointly by the Hong Kong Yatra of the International Society for Krsna Consciousness and the Hindu Association of Hong Kong, was held at the Hindu Temple in Happy Valley, Hong Kong.

The evening program included kirtan and bhajans led by Maharaj P. G. Sharma, Chief Priest of the Hindu Temple; an address, "The Meaning of Govardhana Puja", by Lomasha Rishi dasa Brahmachari, Coordinator of ISKCON's China Yatra; Raja-bhog and Aarti offerings to their Transcendental Lordships Sri Laxmi-Narayana and a sumptuous feast of their Lordships' prasadam.

The feast, including several delectable preparations (mixing Indian spices and Chinese beancurd), tasty rice pulau, chapatis, puris, zesty dahl, almond halva, rich kirni and camphor sweet balls, was prepared by the women of Maharaj Sharma's family, with assistance from Iskcon's local devotees. Both the program and the prasad met the enthusiastic approval of the happy guests in attendance.

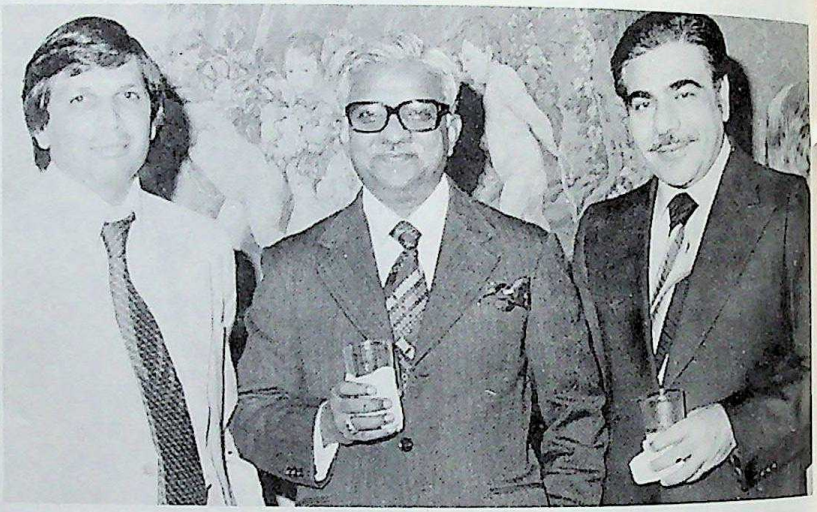
PRETTY POSE

Cute Diviya, daughter of Prakash & Jyoti Motwani looking pretty as ever in a Kashmiri outfit.

THANK GOD IT'S FRIDAY

Friday Ladies' Group celebrated Diwali by hosting a party for its members and the highlight of the function was a dance performance by Mrs. Nirmala Daswani. Pictured are from left: Mrs. Sati Vaswani – Treasurer, Mrs. Mala Daswani – Secretary, Mrs. Nirmala Daswani – Vice President and Mrs. Prabha Vaswani – President.

PROMINENT PERSONALITIES



Mr. K.V. Murthy, Chairman of Indian Overseas Bank was recently in the colony and a cocktail reception was held in his honour by Mr. K. Sital. Seen at the occasion are from left: Mr. M.K. Mangalmurti, Indian Commissioner in Hong Kong, Mr. K.V. Murthy and Mr. Arjan Melwani.

MAST KALANDAR

Miss. Bhagwanti Navani, the famed Sindhi singer visited Hongkong and thrilled the audience with her melodious voice at a musical nite organised by the Sindhi Sabha. Miss Navani and her party gave a splendid performance and they are seen here in action at the Crystal Ballroom, Holiday Inn Hotel which was packed to capacity.

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MISSIONS COST MORE

The minister of state for external affairs, Mr. S. Kundu, told the Lok Sabha that India had spent Rs. 25.59 crores in 1977-78 against Rs. 19.37 crores in 1975-76 towards the maintenance of Indian missions or embassies abroad.

To reduce the expenditure on rent, efforts were being made to acquire or construct property at various places.

INDONESIAN ENVOY

The new ambassador of Indonesia, Vice-Admiral A. Jamsul Bachri Tjipto-suhardjo, presented his credentials to the President, Mr. Sanjiva Reddy in New Delhi.

Welcoming him, Mr. Reddy said: "My government has welcomed the emergence of ASEAN as an effective instrument of economic cooperation, which will bring about economic and social progress in the region."

NEW INDIAN AMBASSADOR TO SWITZERLAND AND VATICAN

The 55-year-old diplomat Gurbachan Singh has assumed office as India's Ambassador to Switzerland. Mr. Singh has been in foreign service since 1949. He is also accredited as India's Ambassador to the Vatican.

Mr. Singh's predecessor, Mr. Uma Shankar Bajpai, left Switzerland after a year's stay for a post in the External Affairs Ministry in New Delhi.

SATHE IS NEW ENVOY TO CHINA

Mr. R.D. Sathe, India's ambassador to France, has been appointed ambassador to China to succeed Mr. K.R. Narayan, who is retiring shortly.

Mr. Sathe was charge d'affaires of the Indian embassy in Peking during the mid-sixties when the cultural revolution was at its peak. He also served as India's ambassador to Iran and in other capacities in the USSR and Africa.

NEW AMBASSADOR FOR BAHRAIN

India's new ambassador designate in Bahrain is Mr Hari Krishan Mahajan who has been director of India's Ministry of External Affairs for the last two years.

Mr Hari Krishan Mahjan

Mr Mahajan, who is 52, began his career as a resettlement officer in the Directorate of Evacuation in Bombay in 1948 and held various posts until 1958 when he joined the Ministry of External Affairs.

After being a section officer and then under-secretary he became second secretary at the Indian embassy in Buenos Aires from 1962 to 1965.

He then spent three years at the embassy in Algiers, being promoted to first secretary, a post he also held at the embassy in Conakry from 1968 to 1970.

Mr Mahajan returned to India to become deputy chief of protocol and deputy secretary at the Ministry of External Affairs before going to Sydney as deputy high commissioner from 1973 to 1976 when he took up his most recent appointment.

NEW MALAYSIAN ENVOY

Mr. Mon Jamaluddin has been appointed the new Malaysian high commissioner to India.

Mr. Jamaluddin, 43, was until recently deputy secretary-general of the administration and general affairs at the foreign ministry, a foreign ministry statement said.

He had served as Malaysia's charge d'affaires at the Malaysian embassy in Vientienne and also in various capacities in Bangkok, Tokyo, Islamabad and Jakarta.

INDIAN ENVOY'S WIFE LOSES EYE: GOLF MISHAP

Mrs. Anithy Menon, wife of the Indian ambassador, Mr. N.B. Menon, lost her right eye in a mishap at the golf links in Kathmandu.

A ball struck by Mr. Menon hit her in the eye and she was rushed to the local hospital.

The embassy doctor, Dr. Vijay Kumar, said an operation was performed in a bid to save the injured eye and to prevent "sympathetic reaction" in the other one.

INDIAN ENVOY DEAD

RABAT: Mr. K.K. Kaul, charge d' affaires and first secretary at the Indian embassy in Morocco, died after a heart attack, the embassy said. He was 57.

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Gleanings from Indian press

SERVICE PREFERRED TO SANYAS

Mr. Morarji Desai's reply to his critics who wanted him to take "sanyas" to attain God is: "It is through service of the people I can attain God.

"Those who want me to take sanyas should themselves take sanyas," he said, addressing the Janata party camp.

Mr. Desai did not also like his government being described as "Morarji's Government" as people used to call his predecessor government "Indira Gandhi's government."

"If it is called my government I am finished." The government headed by him was the Janata party government, he said.

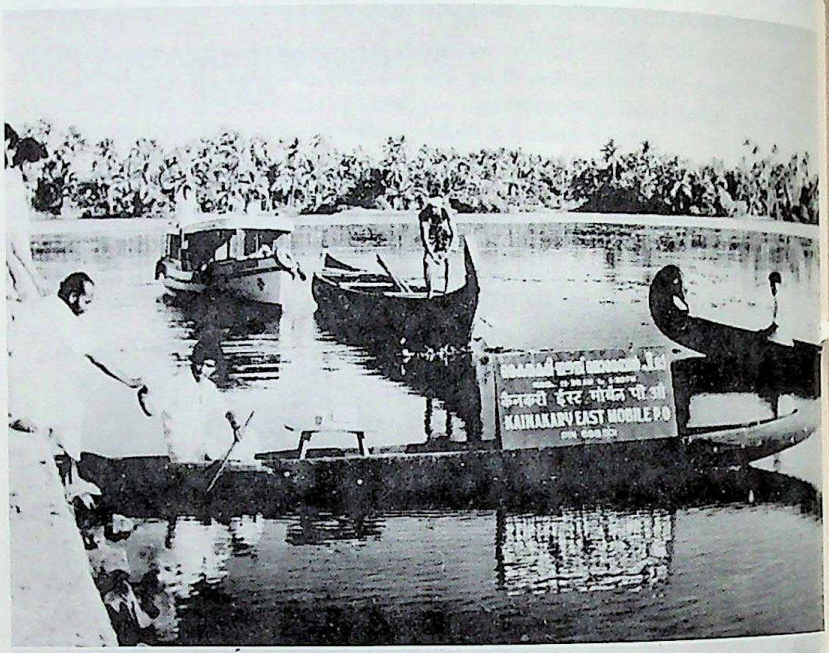
RADIO TELESCOPE

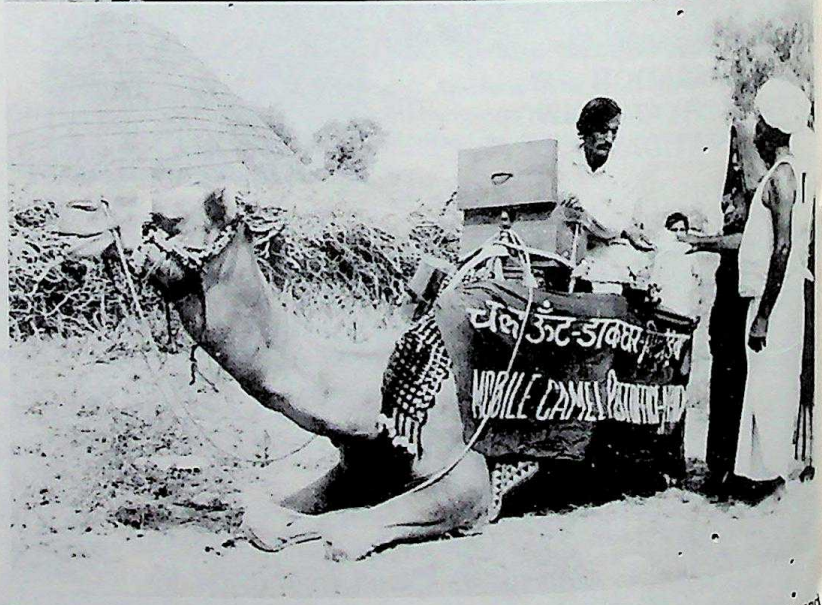
A synthesis radio telescope, capable of picking up signals from outside the solar system, is being built at Ootacamund by the Radio Astronomy Centre of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.

MAHESH YOGI

Customs seized a helicopter belonging to Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, the high priest of transcendental meditation following his failure to produce a valid licence to retain it in the country.

MOBILE MAIL FOR JANATA





Pigeons carried messages in India in olden days. Today, camels, ponies, boats and cycles are used as the carriers of letters to inaccessible places. Nine out of every 10 villages in India have a daily mail service, as can be seen in the above pics., of a camel and a boat carrying the mail. The mobile post offices have increased from 15,900 in March 1977 to 67,729 in October, 1978.

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INDIAN SHRIMP A 'HIGH SEX STIMULANT'

The shrimp, the most sought-after fish in the world market 'is a high sex stimulant.'

"It is this quality rather than its protein content that has made the shrimp more popular," according to Mr. M. Devidasa Menon, former director of the Indo-Norwegian project.

FP DRIVE WITH NEW LEGEND

The family planning programme is back to the days of sloganeering on the two children norm.

Only to make it new, the slogans have been differently worded.

"Delay the first, space the second and stop the third," runs the legend that is to appear in new posters.

JEWELLERY FIRM'S SHOWROOM GUTTED

The showroom of Tribhovandas Bhimji jewellers, occupying the entire first floor of a five-storey building, was heavily protected by steel doors, grills and locking devices. Hence the fire brigade had literally to cut their way in to fight the fire and used metal cutting instruments to gain entry.

The fire destroyed the furniture, the airconditioning unit, showcases containing silverware, official documents, carpets and the false ceiling, the fire brigade reported.

INDIA TAKES OVER NIGERIAN RAILWAYS

India will manage Nigeria's railway system for a three-year period under a contract won against stiff competition from France and Hungary.

A TRUE MOTHER

Mother Teresa was received by the President of India.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AWARD TO FOREIGN HINDI WRITER

An Award Committee to advise the Sub-Committee of the Kendriya Hindi Samiti in the Indian Ministry of External Affairs has been constituted for the selection of foreign Hindi writers for the grant of the award.

The Minister of External Affairs, Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, is the Chairman. Other member's of the Committee are Mr. Ganga Sharan Sinha, Acharya Hazari Prasad Dwivedi, Dr. Dharam Vir Bharati, Prof. N. Nagappa, and Mr. J.S. Mehta, Foreign Secretary.

Mr. B.P. Sinha, Officer on Special Duty (Hindi) of Ministry of External Affairs, is the Member-secretary. The headquarters of the Award Committee will be at New Delhi.

MORE PRIVILEGES FOR MP'S IN INDIA

Indian MP's are entitled to more privileges than parliamentarians in most other countries.

A recent Lok Sabha Secretariat publication which lists the remunerations and facilities available to parliament in India and other countries shows that in many respects Indian MP's are more pampered than their counterparts elsewhere.

For example, India is the only democracy where an MP is automatically entitled to a house at a highly subsidized rent.

The Indian pension scheme is also unique. Under an act which was passed during the emergency, every MP who has served five years in parliament is entitled to a pension of Rs. 300 a month and an additional Rs. 50 a month for each year of service in excess of five years, up to a maximum of Rs. 500.

The actual salary of an Indian MP, however, is low compared to most affluent countries.

American Senators get an annual salary of $42,500 each, British MP's get 5,750 pounds and Australian MP's $21,250. On the other hand, in Communist countries such as the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Romania, Czechoslovakia and the USSR, MP's receive no basic salary at all.

Indian MP's are also entitled to many special allowances and privileges, often for their families as well.

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His travelling allowance is liberal – a free air trip back and forth during the session if it is for less than 75 days, and two return fares for a longer session.

An MP is provided with two telephones and 7,500 free local calls a year. An additional Rs. 500 a month is given to him apart from his salary for water, electricity, postal and secretarial charges. Free medical services for the MP and his family is included among his privileges.

SURINAM'S SOCIAL WORKER, PHILANTHROPIST, BROADCASTER VISITS INDIA

Mrs. Roshnie Phoolmatie Radhakishun, well-known writer, social worker and philanthropist of Surinam visited India for 11 days from October 5, 1978 at the invitation of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations. Mrs. Radhakishun is the Managing Director of a radio station in her country, called "Radika", short for Radio-Dehatki-Awaz.

QUITE A WOMAN

Mrs. Roshnie Phoolmatie Radhakishun of Surinam, who visited India recently.

The visit reflects the interest Indian people and government take in those who have settled abroad and had origins in India. Mrs. Radhakishun met Prime Minister Desai and External Affairs Minister Vajpayee. Apart from Delhi, she went to Agra, Patna, Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.

Roshnie was brought up in religious surroundings, imbibing precepts of Arya Samaj and Sanathan Dharma. In 1962, "Radika" was started by Mr. and Mrs. Radhakishun, to propogate Indian culture and the Hindi language in Surinam. The radio station is very popular with the local Hindustani community for its news, commentaries, musical programmes, devotional songs, special features on Indian festivals, religious discourses and children and women programmes. It has listeners in neighbouring Guyana.

Roshnie is devoted to the care of neglected and handicapped children. She has also arranged for foster parents for unwanted children in collaboration with Surinam's Ministry of Justice. She is on the Board of Hindi film censors and on the Government panel to celebrate 1979 as Year of the Child. She is interested in the preservation and growth of Indian culture and Hindi in the countries of the Caribbean. She has written a book on Hindu marriage rites.

Hindi literature is of great interest to the versatile Roshnie. Prem Chand and Gulshan Nanda are her favourite novelists.

– Anil Mathur

PLOTS FOR INDIANS LIVING ABROAD

Non-resident Indians living abroad not owning plots or houses in Delhi or New Delhi can get allotment of plots in the Capital under a special scheme. The land and construction cost has to be paid in foreign exchange, the Lok Sabha was informed recently. The plot will cost Rs. 80,000. The applicant is to send bank draft of Rs. 10,000 with application. Before construction, the cost for two and a half floors is to be deposited but if the applicant wants only one floor, the foreign exchange deposit should cover the cost of ground floor only.

CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATED

Facsimile of the special stamp issued by the Indian Postal Dept. on November 14, '78, on Children's Day, traditionally celebrated on the birthday of the late Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru. The painting is by 10-year old Dinesh Sharma of Dehra Dun (Uttar Pradesh) and is printed in multi-colour on 25 paisa stamp. Free joy flights in gliders were given in Delhi to children between 9 and 12 to mark the 89th birthday anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru. A three-day children's camp, in a huge tented township, was inaugurated by President, Mr. Sanjiva Reddy; the camp was organised as a prelude to the U.N. – sponsored celebration of the International Year of the Child in 1979.

ITALIAN V.V.J.P.

Italy's Foreign Minister, Mr. Arnaldo Forlani, was in New Delhi recently for three-day talks, with his counterpart, Mr. A.B. Vajpayee; he also called on Vice-President B.D. Jatti. The Forlanis visited Agra to see the Taj Mahal. Mrs. Forlani visited the Central Cottage Industries Emporium and the National Museum.

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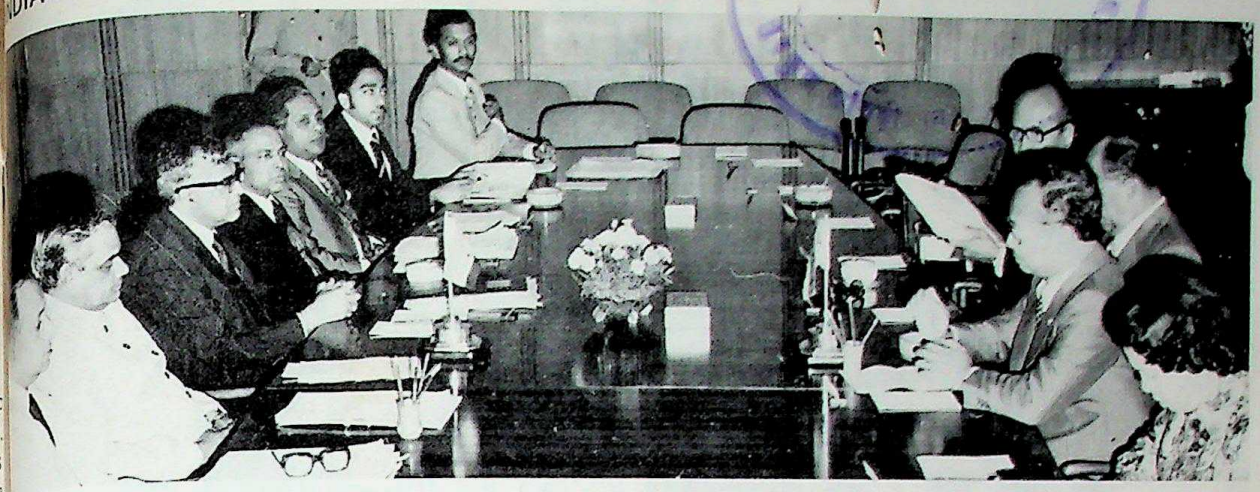
...DIA-INDONESIA PARLEYS

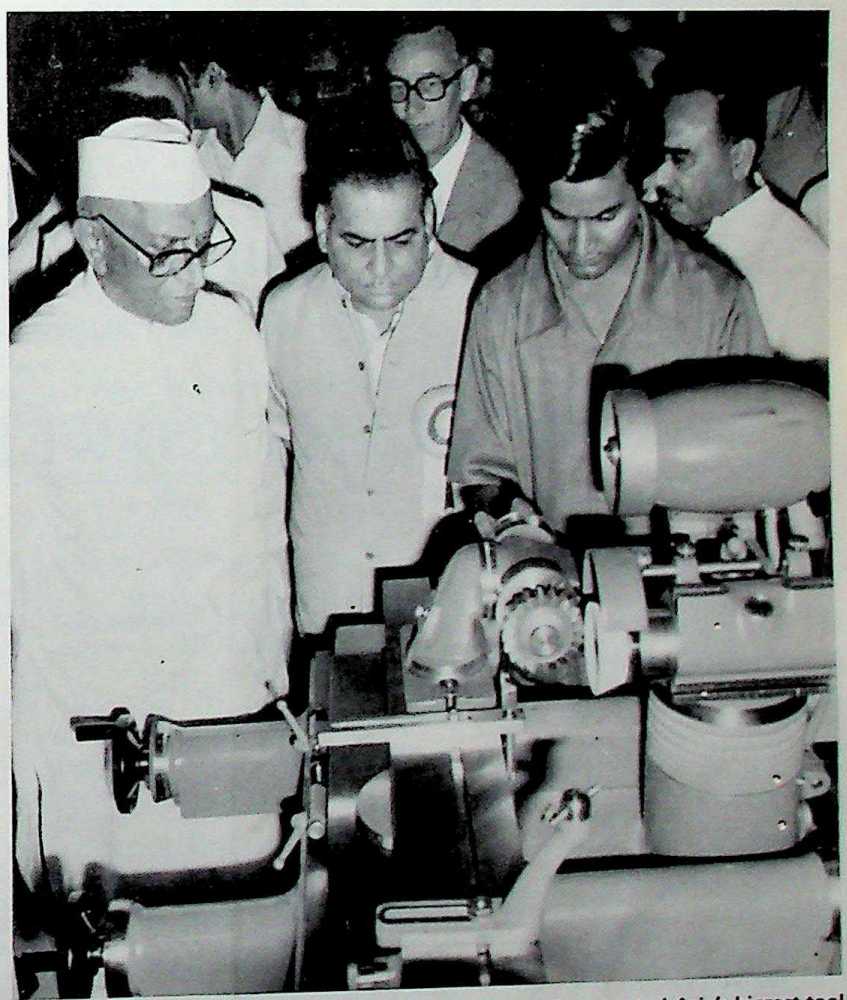


...Minister for External Affairs, Mr. A.B. Vajpayee, (2nd from left), the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadji, (2nd from right), and their aides, at the Indo-Indonesian official talks in New Delhi recently.

"IRON HORSES" PACES RECALLED

The Skinner's Horse, a celebrated ...egiment of the Indian Army, re...ently celebrated its 175th anniver...ary, which coincided with the ...00th birth anniversary of its ...under, Col. James Skinner. The ...acsimile of the stamp, issued on ...e occasion, shows the strong ...orses and brave men, who com...rised the regiment, still in exis...ence. Some of the trophies won ...y the Regiment are in museums ...U.K. It was in an action in 1971 ...at Captain Vikram Desukar of the ...egiment was awarded the Vir ...akra.

ASIA'S BIGGEST TOOL ROOM CENTRE



India's Prime Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, recently inaugurated Asia's biggest tool room and training centre in the Wazirpur industrial area in Delhi. An Indo-Danish project, the centre will cater to about 50,000 industrial units in Delhi, most of them in the small-scale industries sector. The photograph shows Mr. Desai going round the Tool Room Training Centre.

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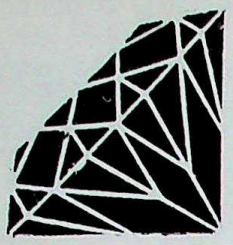

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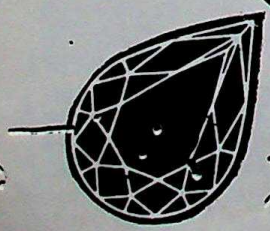

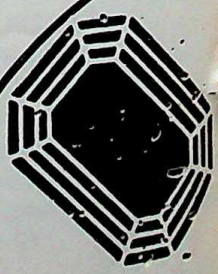

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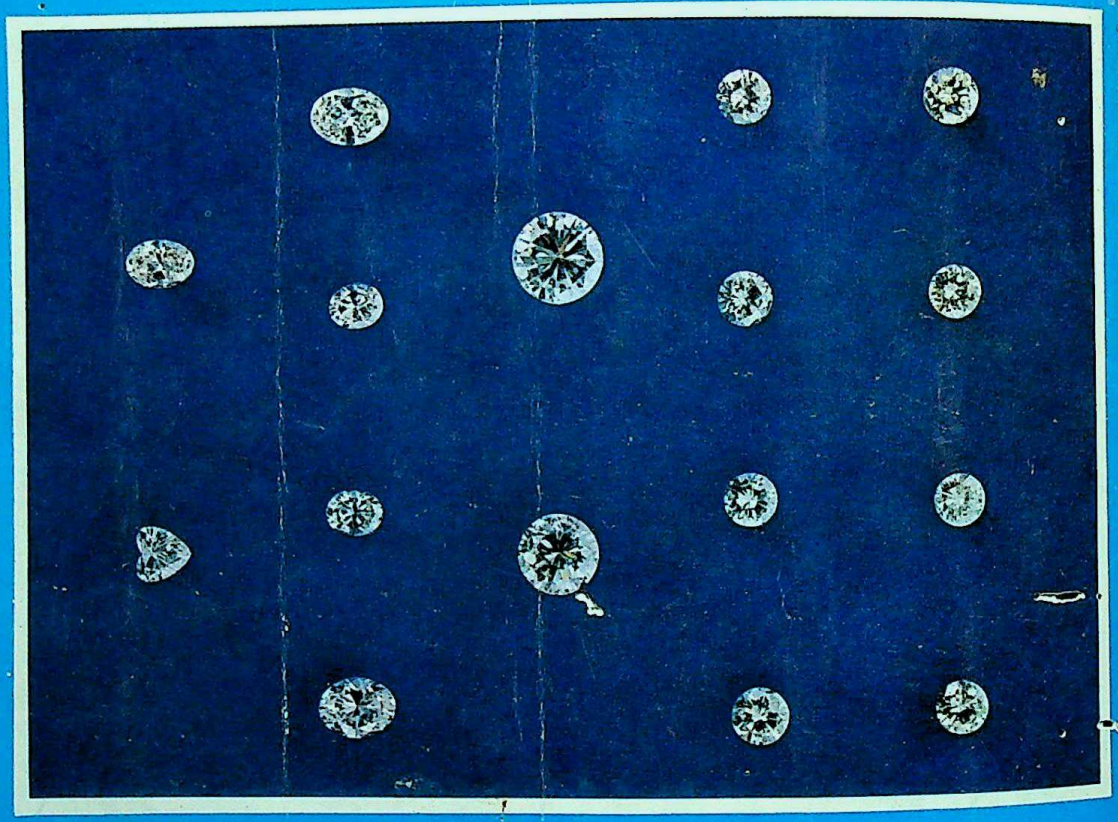

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DAILY VEHICLE

Serial No.	C.S.R. No.	Duty Slip No.	Buses No.	Name of Route		KILOMETERAGE					No. of Single Trip	Consumption			Average	No. of Passengers Carried	
				From	To	Earning	Dead	Relief	Deptt.	Total		M. Oil	D. Oil	Petrol		Upper	

Signature of D.V.E. Clerk _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Signature in Station Inch

P.S.U.P. (Re.) 180 Meyia/1256-15-2-82-500 Books.

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...TEMENT

Page No.

No. of Passengers Carried		Earning Cash				Earning Recoverable				TOTAL		Earning per Kilometer on Earning K. meterage		Remarks
Upper		By Luggage		By Passengers		By Luggage		By Passengers		Earning				
		Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	

Station Inc...

Date of submission - - - - - - - - -

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Name of Station

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